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KENT ON SUNDAY



INSIDE

Review
Comedian Ed Byrne talks about his new stand-up show

Property
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ARCHANT KOS MEDIA Mid North edition | IT'S WHAT SUNDAYS ARE ALL ABOUT | No.434 January 16, 2011

ONLINE NEWS & SPORT: KENTNEWS.CO.UK | **WIN:** TICKETS TO SEE JAMIE CULLUM **PAGE 25** | ON SALE 90P

COMPANIES URGED TO JOIN FORCES AND SPEED THE RECOVERY

Join our campaign and help Keep Kent Working

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

TODAY this newspaper calls on employers throughout the county to join together and support our new campaign to Keep Kent Working.

With unemployment at its highest rate in years and government spending cuts in full force, now is the perfect time for businessmen and women across the region to collaborate and improve the Kent economy for all.

Our campaign aims to keep people in work, generate jobs, and develop our talent for the future.

It will provide a forum for local companies to demonstrate what they are doing to aid the recovery – be it by taking on new apprentices or coming up with innovative new ways of working – while also acting as a launch pad for firms to join together and share their expertise.

Archant KOS Media has faced difficult decisions itself in recent times, as have many businesses within the county.

Managing director Paul Stannard said: "We have had to make tough decisions, and it is from this backdrop that we decided to do something positive and use our media as a vehicle for employers and organisations – as well as the wider community – to communicate how adaptable the business community in Kent is to dealing with change, and to make sure the people of Kent know what opportunities are out there."

The Keep Kent Working campaign already has the backing of Kent County Council and the Federation of Small Businesses.

"Anything that gets businesses working

Continued on page two



50-POINT DEDUCTION FOR CLUB AT CENTRE OF EYE-GOUGE ROW

For full story – see Sport

Parties clash over care home reform

KENT County Council is to press ahead with controversial proposals to shake-up its provision of care homes for the elderly.

Thousands of people submitted objections to plans which will see four care homes closed, others sold to the private sector, and some demolished and rebuilt.

While Labour says the decision makes a "mockery of democracy", the ruling Tories say they must "balance today's needs with the demands of the future".

KCC says the new provisions will provide more choice and better accommodation for an ageing population.

FULL STORY – SEE PAGE 2

Seaside town star of new blue movie

DEAL is at the centre of a bizarre pornography row after an American film company said it was coming to the seaside town to make an X-rated movie.

The company Girls Gone Wild films local woman exposing themselves for the camera, and even claims to be in discussion with the council over sites to pitch its roadshow.

Officials say the firm, whose films include Best of Horny Schoolgirls should be "sent packing back to America".

FULL STORY – SEE PAGE 3

Keep Kent Working!
2011 Campaign
It's jobs for Kent

Support our campaign for 2011 and help us champion a better future

Keep Kent Working!

If you're an employer building for a brighter future by offering training and opportunities, we want to hear from you.
Let's give Kent people the chances they deserve and make sure their talent thrives.
Companies that want to become Employer Champions in our campaign should get in touch with campaign manager Claire Trevill. Call 01303 817041 or email claire.trevill@kosmedia.co.uk and find out how you can get involved.

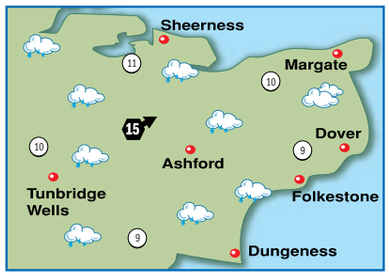
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Kent today



TODAY: Rather cloudy with a few patches of drizzle. However, some sunny intervals are possible during the afternoon. Strong south-westerly winds easing. Mild. Max temp 9-12C (48-54F). **TONIGHT:** Outbreaks of rain arriving from the north-west, some heavy. Mild. Min temp 6-9C (43-48F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	10	50	London	rain	12	54
Belfast	fair	9	48	Liverpool	rain	11	52
Birmingham	rain	12	54	Manchester	rain	11	52
B'mouth	rain	11	52	Newcastle	rain	11	52
Bristol	rain	11	52	Norwich	cloudy	12	54
Cardiff	rain	11	52	Oxford	rain	12	54
Cork	drizzle	9	48	Southsea	rain	11	52
Edinburgh	showers	10	50	S'hampton	rain	11	52
Glasgow	showers	10	50	Southport	rain	10	50
Isle of Man	showers	10	50	Swansea	rain	11	52
Leeds	rain	11	52	Torquay	rain	11	52

Sun & moon

Sunrise	7.55am	Sunset	4.16pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	12.40pm	Moonset	4.55am	4.16pm to 7.54am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	07.45	5.4	20.27	5.5	08.45	5.7	21.21	5.9
Margate	08.37	3.9	21.15	4.0	09.47	4.1	22.16	4.2
St Mary's	01.24	4.4	13.54	4.5	02.24	4.7	14.50	4.8

Week ahead

monday Mild but wet. max 11C min 2C

tuesday Fine but fresher. max 8C min 0C

wednesday Fine but chilly. max 6C min -1C

thursday Sunny intervals. max 7C min 0C

friday Dry and bright. max 6C min 1C

saturday Cloudy but dry. max 7C min 2C

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Pulling together on road to recovery

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

together to create more employment opportunities for people, and especially young people, absolutely gets my backing," said Kent County Council's cabinet member for regeneration and economic development, Cllr Kevin Lynes.

"There could be a little more thought between businesses about the beginning and the end. I'd like to reach a point where we are engaging really closely with the private sector to find out where the skills gaps will be in future, so we can address that and train up tomorrow's workforce, today."

One of the main aims of the Keep Kent Working campaign is to encourage businesses to take on young workers, as a third of the county's unemployed are aged 18-24.

Cllr Lynes pointed to KCC's support scheme for employers, which drastically reduces the bureaucracy involved with taking on an apprentice, as an example of how different organisations can work together for the benefit of all. He added: "The benefit of investing in youth is that you get a huge amount of enthusiasm, energy and drive that comes with being young. Letting young people look at things with a fresh pair of eyes and question the way in which they do things can be so valuable to businesses and can give them a serious edge over their competitors."

The Keep Kent Working campaign manager Claire Trevill, who has vast experience of business in Kent, says she fully understands what employers and employees are going through.

She has worked closely with the Government's Future Jobs Fund and is currently acting as a business mentor for young people with the Prince's Trust charity.

"Everyone is aware that these are tough economic times, but that creates an opportunity for doing things differently," said Miss Trevill. "And that includes how businesses recruit staff and how they take on apprentices and offer graduate placements.

"Our proximity to London has also become a blessing and a curse because we lose many of our best workers there. But now's the time to stop the brain train and for Kent employers to fight back and keep the talent here.

"Keep Kent Working is a positive campaign and I'm pleased this newspaper is giving employers and employees the platform to communicate good employment practice as well as to raise awareness of what help is out there to keep Kent strong."

To achieve the aims of our campaign we will need everyone to contribute. We may lead the Keep Kent Working initiative but we also welcome any ideas or suggestions. Show your support for Kent's economic prosperity by emailing keepkentworking@kosmedia.co.uk.

KCC to push on with care homes closures

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

FIERCE public opposition has failed to stop Kent County Council from pressing ahead with plans to close care homes for the elderly.

Despite thousands of people expressing concern through letters, questionnaires and petitions during a 19-week consultation, the authority has given itself the go-ahead for the proposals put forward in June, last year.

These include the closure of four care homes and the selling-off or rebuilding of a further seven.

Cabinet member for adult social services, Cllr Graham Gibbens, announced his decision on Thursday, claiming the main drivers were to provide more choice and better accommodation for an ageing population.

"Clearly there will be people who are unhappy that the decisions don't reflect their views," he said. "The key issue for me, however, has been the need to balance today's needs with the demands of the future.

"The consultation was important and useful and I have listened carefully and thoroughly to the voices of people who did not agree with the original proposals, as well as those who do.



BALANCE: Cllr Graham Gibbens

"In making my decision I have had to make a judgement about whether these objections are strong enough to challenge the reasoning behind the original proposals.

"I believe the twin challenges of the present and the future are best met by going ahead with the recommendations."

The four care homes due for closure are Ladesfield in Whitstable, Sampson Court in Deal, The Limes in Dartford and Lawrence House in Folkestone. Bowles Lodge in Hawkhurst, Cornfields in Dover, and Manorbrooke in Dartford are all to be demolished and replaced with 'extra care' social housing that would allow residents to live independently but with carers available 24 hours a day.

The shake-up also affects Wayfarers in Sandwich, which will be sold as a going concern, and three Swale care homes – Kiln Court in Faversham, Doubleday Lodge in Sittingbourne, and Blackburn Lodge in Sheerness – that KCC will effectively sell to the private sector and negotiate an agreement where it can retain rights to places.

The fate of the Dorothy Lucy Centre in Maidstone will be decided later this year.

Cllr Gibbens' choices, which cannot be implemented until January 24 at the earliest, come as little surprise after council officers recommended there be no changes to the original proposals.

Labour group leader Cllr Leslie Christie said last week: "It is a mockery of democracy and gives a clear indication of how little 'localism' means to KCC. In their report they recognise there was strong resistance to the proposals, but have adopted a 'we know best' attitude."

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NHS is bending rules to transfer flu vaccine, says leading doctor

A DOCTOR has accused the NHS of "bending the rules" to allow for GPs to transfer potentially life-saving flu vaccine between surgeries.

Dr Robert Blundell, vice-chairman of the Kent Local Medical Association, said risks involved with moving drugs from one practice to another meant a GP must have a wholesale dealer's licence, or any transfer of medication would be illegal.

But he stressed that practices did not hold such licences.

"Unless rules are bent it will be difficult to exchange vaccines," he said. "And wholesalers, who hold licences, are unlikely to take vaccines back to then redistribute to other practices for fear they might not have been kept at the correct temperature. If there was something found to be wrong with the drugs, they could be liable."



His warning followed calls from NHS South East Coast for surgeries to share any surplus stocks of vaccine after demand for the jab soared.

Kent is one of the worst hit areas in the UK for low supplies. Last week, a spokeswoman at NHS South East Coast, which oversees the county's three primary care trusts, said: "We are urging GPs across Kent to share vaccination with neighbouring practices, where possible."

But risks involved in moving drugs from one place to another include disruption of the 'cold-chain' which ensures the temperature remains the same from storage and transfer through to delivery. Hawkhurst GP Dr Blundell said: "The temperature of the vaccine must not go above or below what it was being stored at previously, otherwise the protein in the vaccine can change, which can give rise to risk of vaccine reaction or allergic reactions."

Swine flu

He said to move drugs to other surgeries they have to be passed back to a wholesaler first.

"If there is a vaccine being held at a practice and something is wrong with it, the practice is liable," he said. "If the drug is sent from a practice to a wholesaler and back to another practice, it is hard to prove who is liable."

Dr Blundell said another reason surgeries did not have rights to transfer drugs was to stop the risk of GPs ordering in medications to make money by exporting them to other countries.

Health Protection Agency figures showed a sharp rise in the number of cases of seasonal flu over Christmas. NHS chiefs said the particular strain included swine flu which accounted for a number of deaths nationally of younger people, aged under 65.

Priority is to vaccinate people in at-risk groups, particularly those aged below 65.

Dr Blundell said: "I don't think GPs in Kent will be transferring vaccine because they are keeping it to themselves. If they did need to share it, it would be a case of patients going to other practices to get vaccinated which would be manageable."

He added: "The reason the problem occurred was the Government did not give enough publicity – its advertising campaign was too late. Most practices receive vaccines about September or October and they have the option for more at the end of November, but nobody is going to order a load more stock when they still have some. The Government did not push the situation early enough."

An NHS South East Coast offical said normally a wholesale dealer's licence is required for someone to supply a medicine to a person who is not the end user, that is, the patient.

Responding on behalf of the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency, she said: "The transfer of vials of flu vaccine between GP surgeries is not normally accepted practice.

"However, if for a specific patient need, it proved necessary for inter-practice transfers to take place, health professionals should ensure the maintenance of the cold chain, traceability, and provision of patient information leaflets and summaries of product characteristics."

GPs are being asked to use locally held stocks of Pandemrix – last year's H1N1 (swine flu) vaccine – when they run out of this season's vaccine.

Sex tour gets a raw Deal

X-RATED moviemakers aim to shatter the image of a quaint seaside town by enticing young women to engage in sex acts for a raunchy roadshow, ***writes Steve Knight***.

The American DVD series Girls Gone Wild is expanding into the UK and plans to hit Deal this summer after the tourist hotspot was bizarrely voted one of the top locations fans would like the brand to visit.

Locals are horrified that their charming coastal town – loved for its coffee shops, pier and castle – could instead be overrun by women exposing their bodies while crowds of men holler their approval.

"Deal is a wonderful town and we want to see more tourism here, but not this sort of tourism," said MP Charlie Elphicke.

"Residents will be deeply concerned because it's not the right location at all for this sort of thing. It's just exploiting women and should be discouraged.

"The people behind it should be sent back to America, we don't want them here."

With films such as Best of Horny Schoolgirls and Spring Break Orgy, Girls Gone Wild has attracted a global fan base since its first video in 1998.

It has a UK pay-per-view channel on Sky Box Office, where in preparation for its British invasion in May and June, it has been running a text vote of possible locations. Surprisingly, Deal finished near the top.

"It doesn't seem appropriate for Deal or its image," said Dover District Council leader Cllr Paul Watkins. "The town has a very good tourist reputation and we wouldn't want that tarnished. Residents will be appalled. I can see no reason why Deal would warrant this sort of activity."

In addition to encouraging young women to expose their bodies on camera, the Girls Gone Wild crew also entice them back to their tour bus to engage in more explicit activity.





RACY: The Girls Gone Wild tour wants to visit Deal this summer

In 2006 the firm behind the franchise – Mantra Films – was fined $1.6 million for failing to create and maintain age and identity records of the women featured in the films.

Girls Gone Wild claims to be in discussions with Dover council as to where this summer's roadshow might be held, a claim the authority denies.

A council official said: "We have not been contacted by this company and have not given permission for the use of any locations for which the council is responsible."

A Girls Gone Wild spokesman said: "We are keen to hear from people with venues for the Girls Gone Wild tour bus to visit, and have also been approaching the council about outdoor locations."

To view, search 'Dickens' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



A unique collection of Charles Dickens material is held at the Medway Archives.

Expert praises retirement ban

SAGA has welcomed the Government's decision to ban employers from being able to sack staff when they reach the age of 65.

Dr Ros Altmann, a pensions expert at the Folkestone-based company that specialises in services for older people, said: "Most people are not old at 65 any more. They are not ready for the scrapheap, work-wise. So why would we want to waste their skills?

"Some argue forcing older workers out will create more jobs for the young.

"In fact, as the baby-boomers come up to 65, if they do not keep working, economic output will be lost and increasing numbers of older people will have much less money to spend."

A Saga survey of the over-50s showed nearly half of those not yet retired want to work past 65 and about seven per cent want to work into their 70s.

Meerkat binned

A MEERKAT was found dead in a dog waste bin after being stolen from Wingham Wildlife Park, near Canterbury.

The animal was snatched from its enclosure after Christmas and, according to the member of the public who discovered its body, was dumped in the bin after being run over by a car in Sandwich.

Meerkats have become popular pets since the launch of the Compare the Market campaign that features an animated meerkat with a Russian accent.

"A bin was the last place we would have hoped to retrieve this animal from," said a park spokesman.



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Savers urged to give Flowers time to grow

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

THE chief executive of Kent Reliance Building Society has asked its members not to make rash judgements over the £50 million deal with JC Flowers.

A minority of savers who voted against the agreement – which represents the first private-sector investment in the mutual banking sector – claim the business will now no longer be run with their best interests at heart.

JC Flowers, which has offices in New York and London, is a private equity investment firm focused on the financial services industry.

Run by billionaire and former Harvard graduate J Christopher Flowers, the firm failed in its attempt to purchase Northern Rock before the bank was saved by the British taxpayer in 2008.

But while admitting his new partners will ultimately want to make a profit, KRBS chief executive Mike Lazenby told KoS it was too early to make predictions about the future of the business.

"We will continue to run as a mutual until JC Flowers owns 90 per cent of the business, which is a long way off," he said."They have also agreed not to pay any dividends to their investors for the next five years, which is an incredibly long time in business.

"For example, five years ago we couldn't possibly have imagined the economy would be the way it is today.

"If they decide after five years they want their money back – and it's not been agreed that they will – then that would give us the option to buy them out.

"It's not a given that everything will be over and we'll become a proper bank.

"Five years is a long way off and a lot of things will happen before then. In the meantime we'll be going back to lending people money, which we haven't been able to do for some time, and we'll be offering some pretty good rates."

With assets of more than £2.2 billion, KRBS is the 12th largest building society in the UK and has served the people of the county for more than 150 years. At least 75 per cent of KRBS members had to vote in favour of the JC Flowers deal for it to be passed, and it scraped through with 75.8 per cent of the ballot.

The Chatham-based society will now transfer all of its business, assets and liabilities to a new bank called OneSavings, which is expected to become effective on February 1, pending approval from the Financial Services Authority. In the meantime KRBS has been busy securing eight new branches in towns as far away as Gloucester, Bristol and Devon, which Mr Lazenby says would not have been possible without the £50m investment.

And despite once describing high street branches as "liabilities", he is also looking to expand the business and open more offices on home turf in Kent.

"There will always be people who want to access a high street branch," said Mr Lazenby. "But we have to make sure they're in the right place and that they will be used when they're open, otherwise they're just a drain on our resources.

"For example, our agency in Strood (at First Call Mortgage Services in the High Street) is totally inappropriate for what we're using it for. But we want to keep a presence in the town so we'll be opening a new office in its place."

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Murder probe after death of punch victim

A MURDER investigation has been launched after a man died two weeks after being attacked.


ADRIAN MILNER

Adrian Milner, 48, known to friends as Ada, died last Sunday in a London hospital. He was attacked in Church Road, Murston, on Tuesday, December 28.

He was walking with a friend near the Co-op just before 7.55pm when there was an altercation with a third man, who punched Mr Milner in the face. The father of two fell to the floor and hit his head, leaving him with a serious head injury. His attacker is white, around 30, stocky, with brown wavy shoulder-length hair. Mr Milner lived in Murston and was a lorry driver.

Park and pride

CONSERVATION and improvement work at Mote Park in Maidstone costing £2.5 million will start this month.

Work will include scrub clearance and the planting of 140 parkland trees.

Funding will come from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Maidstone Borough Council, and other works will include building a new bridge, creating a waterfall, and restoration of the historic pavilion.



Recycling reputation trashed by town halls 'worst 20' list

A KENT council has been revealed as having the worst recycling record in the country.

The GMB union listed England's worst 20 town halls for recycling, with Ashford Borough Council topping the list by sending just 15.3 per cent of household waste for re-use, recycling or composting.

Local authorities in Gravesham and Dartford also found themselves at the bottom of the recycling ranks, with 23.1 per cent and 22.6 per cent respectively.

Staffordshire Moorlands Council was the top performing town hall at 61 per cent.

Brian Strutton, GMB national secretary, said dumping waste in landfill instead of recycling was not only bad for the environment, but uneconomic.

"Landfill tax is due to rise sharply over the next four years from the £48 per tonne to £80 per tonne by 2014 and that's why recycling has to be the order of the day," he said.

Cllr Gerry Clarkson, portfolio holder for environmental services at Ashford council, said it was unfortunate the figures, based on findings from Defra, were so low.

"We acknowledge that we should endeavour to increase the amount of waste recycled overall in the borough, and recycling and waste is a major priority in the council's Five-Year Business Plan which will be implemented from April, 2011," he said.

"But we will continue to take an approach which seeks to recycle in ways that make sense financially and environmentally.

"Ashford has not chased recycling performance at any cost, but has chosen an environmentally efficient approach.

"We have converted about 85 per cent of the waste generated in Ashford at the Maidstone energy-from-waste plant."

A new document by the Institution of Civil Engineers has urged councils to look more at the quality of recycling over quantity.

The report said lower grade material was ending up at landfill anyway and so authorities should look more at the value of reusable materials which can be fed back into the economy.

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THE INTERVIEW

BY STEVE KNIGHT

Book prize throws potter

IF YOU'RE a fan of the literary talents of Edmund de Waal, prepare to be disappointed – he will not be publishing another book for at least a decade.

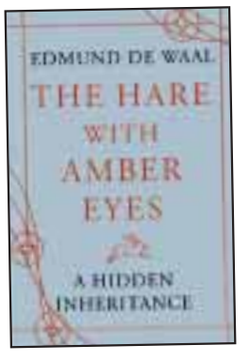
But then that's really not surprising, when you consider the Costa Book Prize winner is, by his own admission, simply a potter still struggling to come to terms with his remarkable rise to prominence.

His book, The Hare with Amber Eyes, tells how a collection of 264 Japanese netsuke figurines ended up in his possession, and how they relate to the history of his family.

"My only realistic aim was to get the book published so my family could enjoy it," admitted Mr de Waal, who went to school in Canterbury. "I had no expectations at all that it would receive so much attention and be read by so many people. I'm completely overwhelmed by it all.

"It's obviously a very different experience writing something over many years compared to making a pot, and I'm still trying to work out what winning this prize means to me. I will do more in the future, but don't expect one for at least another 10 years.

"I'm just a potter who wrote a book, and that's it."



The netsuke figurines written about in Mr de Waal's book are intricately-carved wood and ivory toggles – traditionally used to fasten purses to kimonos – which he inherited from his great uncle during a trip to Japan.

However, his attempts to find out more about their past unearthed horrific tales of how the objects survived, when many other possessions of his Jewish ancestors – heavily persecuted throughout the generations – were stolen or destroyed.

"Once I started writing the book I felt I had a responsibility to my family to finish it," said Mr de Waal.

"But even though it covers some very important and terrible moments in European history, it's also very much about the touch and feel of these beautiful objects and how intricately-made they all were. The book really took me over, and it took several years to write."

The son of a former dean of Canterbury Cathedral, 46-year-old Mr de Waal was educated at the city's King's School and later served as an apprentice potter under one of its former teachers, Geoffrey Whiting.

Mr de Waal also has a connection to Tunbridge Wells, as his Austrian grandmother, Elisabeth, moved to the town after her former home of Vienna was devastated during World War Two.

"How could I not love growing up in the shadow of Canterbury Cathedral?" he said.

"I have very happy memories of living in Kent and being around so much beauty.

"The cathedral today is led by such a dynamic group of people and they will raise the £50 million needed to restore it. It's such an important world symbol that they can't not do."

The Hare with Amber Eyes won the Costa Book Prize in the biography category, with the overall winner being announced on January 25.

The other writers in the running for the prize are Maggie O'Farrell, Kishwar Desai, Jo Shapcott and Jason Wallace.

The judges include broadcaster Andrew Neil, TV presenters Natasha Kaplinsky and Anneka Rice, and the actor David Morrissey. So how does Mr de Waal rate his chances of picking up the overall accolade?

"I've no chance at all," he said. "But I don't care. All the other authors are wonderful people and deserve to win the prize. I've already got more than I thought possible."



GO FIGURE: The 'hidden inheritance' netsuke figurines inspired Edmund de Waal's literary prizewinner



BACK TO THE WAAL: Reluctant author Edmund de Waal

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Mermaid mother

A KEEN swimmer has been chosen as the model for a life-size bronze statue of a mermaid.

Georgina Baker, pictured right, was selected by artist Cornelia Parker to pose for the artwork, being designed for the Folkestone Triennial 2011.



The 38-year-old was chosen in a competition for the Folkestone Mermaid, which will be placed on rocks by the harbour wall.

Mrs Baker, an interior designer and aerobics instructor from Sandgate, is a keen scuba diver and swims two miles every week.

She said: "My children are excited that mum will be the Folkestone Mermaid."

The triennial takes place from June 25 to September 25.

A ROOKIE Tory MP is emerging as one of the most rebellious in his party after revolting for a sixth time in the Commons.

Rochester and Strood's Mark Reckless joined 26 other Eurosceptic Conservatives in backing an amendment to toughen up laws in the European Union Bill – a move which was defeated by the Government. It is the sixth time Mr Reckless has rebelled against his own party, despite new MPs traditionally toeing the party line.

He abstained in the AV system vote; voted against changes to university tuition fees; and has rebelled in three Europe debates since last May.

Restored refugees

ART lovers are being offered the chance to see the restoration of a major Folkestone artwork.

The Landing of the Belgian Refugees, by Fredo Franzoni, will be restored at the Grand Hotel over the next few months.

The painting depicts the arrival in Folkestone of Belgian refugees fleeing from the German invasion in August, 1914.

The six-week restoration begins on Monday and will be carried out by Julie Crick.

Belt up, hang up – camera warning to danger drivers

CAMPAIGNERS fear an alarming increase in the number of drivers using mobile phones to update social networking sites while at the wheel will end in tragedy, ***writes Jon Coates***.



WATCH OUT: Kent and Medway camera vans will be enforcing seatbelt and phone laws

Dozens of people have been killed and seriously injured on roads in Kent during the last year by motorists being distracted by sending text messages or making calls on hand-held phones.

And campaigners fear the worrying trend of drivers updating their Facebook page or sending out messages, or 'tweets', through Twitter, will lead to more deaths.

A study by the RAC found that one-in-five drivers admitted accessing email, Facebook and Twitter while at the wheel.

Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership carried out its own research by analysing messages posted on micro-blogging site Twitter during a week.

It found a driver from the county saying: "I can't believe how bad my spelling was in my last tweet. A testiment (sic) to not tweeting whilst driving!"

This brought a response from another Twitter user: "Tweeting whilst driving, watch out for PC Plod."

Katherine Barrett, of the partnership, said: "More people are using smart phone technology, so it's not just ringing and texting people are using phones for – the RAC report said 21 per cent admitted to accessing email, Facebook and Twitter while driving. Clearly drivers do not think they will get caught, but that kind of attitude can lead to tragic and even fatal consequences.

"Using a hand-held mobile phone while driving is madness."

The partnership has launched a crackdown on drivers using mobile phones at the wheel. Warning boards are going up at the 76 fixed yellow camera sites across Kent this month to remind drivers the county's 60 safety camera vans will be enforcing mobile phone and seatbelt laws, as well as speed limits.

A survey carried out for the partnership of 1,000 people found that 35 per cent of those polled did not know camera vans have these powers. The RAC study also revealed the number of drivers admitting to breaking the law by using a hand-held mobile phone had more than trebled in the last year.

Ms Barrett said: "The penalty for not wearing a seatbelt is a £60 fine and for using a hand-held mobile phone while driving is a £60 fine and three penalty points – but the consequences of a crash can be much more devastating.

"In the last year there have been at least 46 crashes on the county's roads involving someone using a mobile phone while at the wheel. Of these, there were four fatalities, 10 serious injuries and 48 slight injuries.

"It's worrying that people still don't take seriously the dangers posed by using, in any way, a phone while driving."

Lindsey Simkins, road safety research and evaluation officer at the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, said: "Texting and tweeting are among the most dangerous things you can do while driving because you don't have your eyes and mind on the road. And only one hand on the wheel."

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Controversial new secondary school league tables reveal problems at grammars

Core 'failings' in Gove's academic scoring system

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A NEW scoring system introduced to boost the number of pupils studying traditional academic subjects has exposed failings within Kent's grammar schools.

Official statistics revealed that while selective schools are continuing to excel in GSCEs, many are lagging behind under the new English baccalaureate scheme.

The qualification, while not replacing GSCEs, is awarded to pupils who achieve five A* to C grades in English, maths, one science, one foreign language, and one humanity.

Schools were previously only judged on the number of pupils who achieve five A* to C grades in any subjects.

At the Harvey Grammar in Folkestone, only 27 per cent of pupils received the baccalaureate certificate, and at Dover Grammar for Boys just 33 per cent.

While six selective schools achieved above 80 per cent – with Dartford Grammar gaining the highest at 97 per cent – others only managed to scrape average scores and six fell below 50 per cent.

Twenty-eight grammars, however, had 95 per cent or more of their pupils achieving five A* to C grades, including English and maths – Maidstone's Invicta Grammar achieved 100 per cent for a second year running.

The findings came from secondary school league tables released by the Department of Education showing scores for the baccalaureate alongside GCSEs for the first time.

Education secretary Michael Gove said including baccalaureate results in the league tables would help tackle the slump in the study of core subjects. But the move has been met with opposition from headteachers who say it is unfair on schools where less academic pupils do well in vocational courses.

Gravesend-based education adviser Peter Read said: "Non-selective schools are currently delivering vocational subjects, which is what they were previously asked by Government to deliver, but now they are being told that a key measure is academic success in traditional subjects.

"Michael Gove does not respect some of 'the easier' subjects which suit pupils at non-selective schools. I fear the baccalaureate may become the main measure in league tables and my concern is that schools are led by the nose by these tables."

Mr Read said another concern was the low baccalaureate scores in grammar schools.

"Congratulations goes to them for GCSE results, but the baccalaureate shows some grammars have wandered off the mainstream curriculum," he said.

"It really puts them in the spotlight for the first time."

Some 30 non-selective schools failed to get above one per cent of pupils achieving the baccalaureate, but the NUT said schools had not had time to prepare for the league table changes, which were only introduced last year.

Aside from the baccalaureate results, however, headteachers, staff and pupils were celebrating record-breaking GCSE results.

The majority of Kent's secondary schools beat the previous year's results, with the number of students gaining five or more A* to C grades up 6.3 per cent to 79.3 per cent – 3.2 per cent above the national average.

Potential

More than half of students, 56.8 per cent, achieved five A* to C grades including English and maths. Kent County Council cabinet member for children, families and education, Cllr Sarah Hohler, said: "Kent's GCSE results have improved for the last 15 years. Our determination to raise standards will continue as we carry on supporting all our schools to make sure everyone achieves their potential."

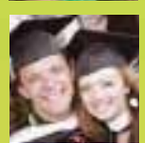
KCC said many students were leaving school with practical skills and praised the popular and successful vocational subjects on offer in the county.

Medway Council was also celebrating record GCSE results with 77 per cent of pupils achieving five A* to C grades – six per cent up on the previous year – and 53.6 per cent of students gaining five A* to C grades including English and maths.

Gad's Hill School in Higham, near Rochester, was named the eighth best performing school in England as well as the country's top performing independent school.

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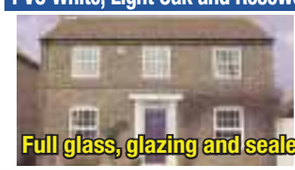
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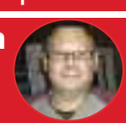
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and some of the county's academies

Academies find results still out of their reach

FAILING schools turned into academies under the Labour government to try to drive up standards have found themselves at the bottom of the league tables again.

It has opened the debate into where low-achieving schools can do next to improve results.

At the Marlowe Academy in Ramsgate, only 14 per cent of pupils achieved five A*-C grades including English and maths, and Folkestone Academy scored just 25 per cent.

Others falling behind included the Isle of Sheppey Academy, which achieved 30 per cent; Strood Academy just 29 per cent; and Spires Academy in Canterbury, 32 per cent.

These old-style academies were introduced under the previous government as part of the National Challenge scheme which turned any secondary school failing to get 30 per cent of its pupils achieving five A*-C grades into an academy.

About £30 million was spent on each school to rebuild and refurnish them with state-of-the-art technology, but many of Kent's are still at the bottom of the UK's GCSE league tables.

Beyond the tipping point

Kent independent education adviser PETER READ looks at the future of education as the number of academy schools continues to grow

THE face of education in Kent is changing with astonishing rapidity, driven by the academy movement. Currently, there are 28 secondary academies with another five in Medway, and 10 Kent and two Medway secondary schools on the way. You will find a full list at www.kentadvice.co.uk.

Many others have begun the process, so Kent is close to losing 50 per cent of its 101 secondary schools.

This is surely well past the 'tipping point', where KCC has confirmed it will encourage remaining secondary schools to become academies, as it becomes uneconomic to run a system for the rump.



Instead, KCC plans to change its focus to supplying services to schools that wish to buy them in.

What does this mean for the schools and, more importantly, for the children? Ten of the original 'luxury model old-style' academies, have been rebuilt at an average cost of about £30 million apiece.

The remaining six 'lean, old-style' academies face a more difficult future as the plug was pulled on their building programmes.

However, as this week's GCSE results tables show, many of these have yet to convert academic promise into real progress.

The remaining academies are the new Gove models, having converted since September. The Government promotes the following advantages: freedom to reward staff appropriately; freedom in the delivery of the curriculum; freedom to change lengths of terms and school days (why not offer all these to all schools?); and freedom from local authority control.

However, to quote one academy headteacher: "Parents and children will not have noticed the difference. For us the main advantage is a short-term financial gain of some £350,000 for the year."

The first crop of Gove academies are Ofsted 'outstanding' schools, so one is unsure why they need to be financially subsidised at the expense of others.

KCC will probably continue to support the majority of primary and special schools, otherwise it will be reduced to offering key services such as special education needs and school admissions, although these will be undermined by the independence of academies.

There is a worrying lack of accountability of the academies, with parental concerns having nowhere to go except the Department of Education that hardly appears geared up to deal with them.

Some schools are already bucking the admissions system with no sanction available, and others are actively discouraging children with special needs. And I cannot see how KCC can carry out its planning role in the new climate, as new provision moves over to the market place for individual schools that wish to expand.

Soon nearly all secondary schools in Kent will be academies, each ploughing their own furrow. One can already see some adopting business models, seeking to expand their activities rather than putting the education of their pupils first. KCC has no role in the new set up so there will be no-one to stand up for the children of Kent, until government recognises there needs to be accountability and takes more central control.

Then, when the number of schools is too great, it will set up local centres to administer schools. Presumably these will be without local accountability, unless they delegate responsibility back to KCC.

One final question. If Government has the power to close failing schools and turn them into academies, what will it do with failing academies?

ASTRONAUT Piers Sellers has been forced to cancel a visit to his old school in Kent after the shootings in Arizona. A gunman went on the rampage in Tucson last Saturday, killing six people and wounding 13. One of the victims – Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords – is married to astronaut Mark Kelly and all Nasa crew have been grounded, forcing Dr Sellers, 55, who went to Cranbrook School, to cancel.

He was awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honours List for services to science and now hopes to make the trip to Cranbrook in March.



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Expelled Tory to become new Ukip treasurer

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

GAMBLING tycoon Stuart Wheeler says he may still vote Conservative despite becoming the new treasurer of the UK Independence Party.

The millionaire businessman, who lives at Chilham Castle, near Canterbury, was expelled by the Tories in 2009 for giving £100,000 to their Euro-sceptic opponents, who he now hopes to raise even more money for Ukip in an official capacity.

However, Mr Wheeler said he would only vote Conservative in future local and general elections if there were no Ukip candidates standing in his constituency.

His current political stance is far removed from his position of 11 years ago when he handed over £5 million to the William Hague-led Tories – the largest ever donation to a political party.

"I've always been very strongly opposed to our relationship with the EU," said Mr Wheeler. "And over the last year I've gradually come to realise that the EU is unreformable, and also the Conservative Party is going to do precious little about it.

Rumblings

"The right thing for the country to do is to leave Europe, and that is the main aim of Ukip. If you think like me then there's no other party you can join, unless you're a racist and want to sign up to the BNP.

"I'm now going to be very much a supporter and member of Ukip, and as long as Ukip candidates are standing in my area then I will vote for them.

"If they're not then I'm more inclined to vote Conservative than anyone else, but I'm still unhappy with the party and its stance on the EU in particular."

Mr Wheeler made his first donation to Ukip in March, 2009, just months after Marta Andreasen – the controversial former chief accountant of the European Commission – was unveiled as the party's new treasurer. However, she quit Ukip later that year, claiming she disagreed with how it was being managed at chairmanship level.



EURO-SCEPTIC: Stuart Wheeler

Mr Wheeler had also previously told KoS he did not want to join Ukip because there were "some internal rumblings there that I would not want to get involved in".

When asked about those comments this week, Mr Wheeler said he had put his previous concerns about the party behind him.

"As far as my job is concerned it doesn't really matter what decisions were made in the past," he said. "People still say this, that and the other to me about the party, but part of the basis of my appointment was that I should be allowed to investigate any issues that may arise regarding its finances.

"The party is clear that everything should be more out in the open in future."

Mr Wheeler, who made his fortune as the founder of the IG Index spread-betting firm, launched his own party – Trust – and unsuccessfully ran for Parliament in Bexhill and Battle at the last general election.

He told KoS he would have discussions with the party's supporters between now and March 1, when he officially joins Ukip, about what will happen to the organisation.

In the meantime Mr Wheeler is looking forward to teaming up with Ukip leader and fellow Kent resident Nigel Farage, who was born in Bromley but now lives in Westerham, near Sevenoaks.

"I get on extremely well with Nigel, as I do with executive chairman Steve Crowther, who will effectively run the party while Nigel is in Europe," he said.

"I've been very impressed with what I've seen so far."

Heroin dealer jailed



A DRUG dealer has been sentenced to four years in prison for supplying heroin.

Shane Dawkins, 49, of Longshaw Road, Maidstone, was sentenced at Maidstone Crown Court, after pleading guilty to class A drug supply.

The net closed around Dawkins after police raided his home on July 23, 2010, seizing £600 of heroin and drug dealing paraphernalia.

During the raid Dawkins threw a wrap of heroin out of the kitchen, but it was spotted by an eagle-eyed police officer.

Ken's dinner date

FORMER London mayor Ken Livingstone is to be the guest of honour at a fundraising Labour Party dinner.

The £29-a-head event is at The Inn on the Lake Hotel, Shorne, Gravesend, on Saturday, February 5, and money raised will be used to fund the party's campaigning in Kent.

During his political career Mr Livingstone has been leader of the GLC, and MP for Brent East. He is also the candidate for London Mayor in 2012.

Beware of tax scam

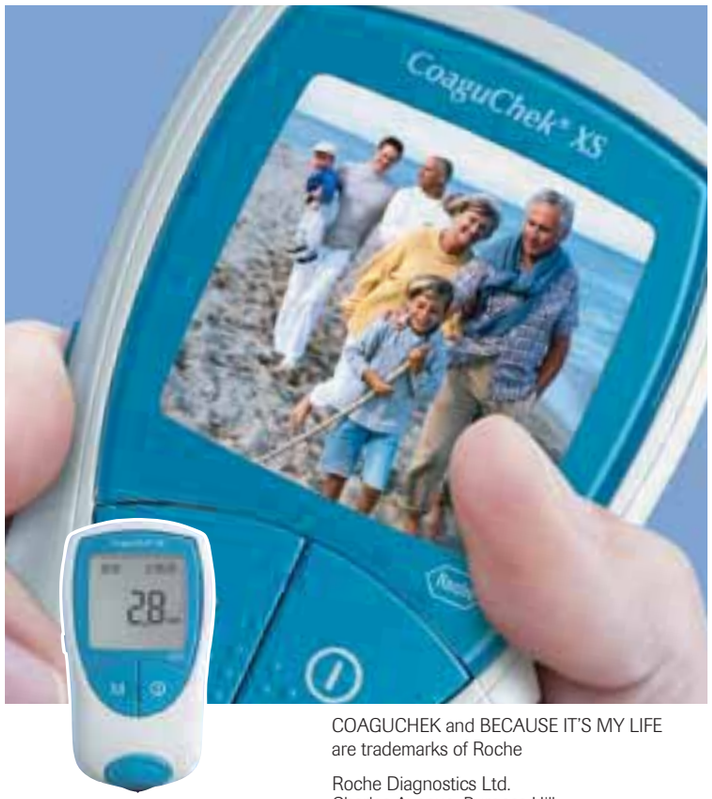
A COUNCIL is warning residents to be wary of phone calls claiming to offer tax refunds.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council issued the warning after members of the public reported incidents where a caller pretends to be from the council, saying they are entitled to a refund of around £7,000.

A spokesman for the council said: "The caller asks for bank details so they can put the money straight into bank accounts.

"The council does not operate this way. Under no circumstances should anyone give any details of either their bank account or debit or credit cards. If possible, make a note of as much information as you can and then call police on 01622 690690 to report the incident."

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2. Garcia-Alamino JM et al. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, Issue 4, 2010.

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DIRECT ACTION: Peter Carroll is planning a national protest against current fuel prices

Gurkha campaigner to fight for fair fuel

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A LIB Dem activist plans to heap more pressure on his Coalition colleagues by blockading Britain's roads in protest at current fuel prices.

Shepway councillor Peter Carroll, who last year sold his Maidstone-based haulage firm Seymour Transport, aims to hold a "mass rally of vehicles" in the weeks to come as part of his FairFuelUK campaign launched last Sunday.

He claims the current high price of diesel, combined with the rise in VAT and fuel duty is crippling the freight industry, and has called on fellow hauliers to back plans for a national protest.

And as the founder of the highly-successful Gurkha Justice Campaign, Mr Carroll has a history of taking on the Government and winning.

"Spiralling fuel prices pushed up even higher by fuel duty rises are crushing the UK road freight industry," he said.

"This is hurting the entire economy. It is pushing up prices and stoking inflation, which affects everyone.

"I know the Government has serious budget problems to address, but in this case the medicine is going to kill the patient."

The average price of petrol is currently just below £1.30 per litre, while diesel has already topped the £1.32 mark.

Motorists already suffering from the VAT and fuel duty hikes have now been hit by Prime Minister David Cameron's warning that the 'fair fuel price stabiliser' – one of the Conservative's manifesto promises – may now not be pursued.

But Mr Carroll aims to force Mr Cameron's hand by winning the same level of public support he and Joanna Lumley received for the 2009 Gurkha Justice Campaign, which resulted in an embarrassing defeat for the then-Labour government in the House of Commons.

"I want to build up FairFuelUK into the largest, most broadly based and powerful campaign for fairer fuel prices for British business ever put together," he said.

"We will concentrate on lobbying MPs and the Government. I aim to hold mass rallies of vehicles in the coming weeks as we run up to the budget so the Government is in no doubt about the depth of this crisis."

Mr Carroll was the unsuccessful Lib Dem candidate for the Maidstone and the Weald constituency at the last General Election, but has considered quitting his party after becoming increasingly disillusioned with its role in the Coalition.

Moving

He has appealed for support for his campaign from organisations including the Federation of Small Businesses and the Chambers of Commerce, but one group he will not be able to count on is the Tunbridge Wells-based Freight Transport Association.

Its chief economist Simon Chapman said: "Logistics is about keeping the country moving – not grinding it to a halt.

"Direct action may grab the headlines but it quickly wears thin with the public when journeys are delayed and lives disrupted."

Despite his negative take on the campaign, Mr Chapman agreed the constant tax hikes on fuel were unacceptable.

He said: "For the UK to trade its way out of recession its supply chains need to be cost-competitive and its roads must provide reliable routes to market.

"Neither is achieved by a tax base spiralling well above inflation and a transport network starved of investment."



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Coastal path leads to 'spread' fears

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

WORK is due to start on the Kent section of an unbroken walking route around the UK.

The path will run 20 miles along the stretch of coastline between Dover and Ramsgate and will form one part of the continuous coastal path.

Government agency Natural England said work will begin on the delivery of the Kent stretch in early spring and will involve a consultation process.

But while the project has been welcomed by ramblers and walking groups, the £50 million national project, which aims to improve access around the whole coastline, has seen opposition from landowners.

A spokesman for the Country Land and Business Association said they were concerned about 'spreading room', which is open access land where people will have freedom to roam rather than having to stick rigidly to a path. "This is a concern of ours because there is a risk to agricultural and arable land," he said. "Natural England said spreading room doesn't affect farming activities, but we believe there is a risk.

"It's a bit like Right to Roam – people assumed they had a right to go anywhere and it could be like that in this case."

North Thanet MP Roger Gale chaired the committee which oversaw the legislation for the path. He told the BBC: "It is not my job to have a view. I just oversee it, but sometimes you cannot help but raise an eyebrow and say, 'is that going to work?'

"We'll see. I can't see the money being put up in the financial state we are in."

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POLICE are warning homeowners to be on their guard against criminals stealing domestic heating oil.

The rising price of oil is behind an increase in the number of such thefts and officers are urging people to take steps to deter the criminals.

Det Insp Susie Harper said: "Victims of oil theft often wake up to a cold, unheated house, thinking their boiler has broken down. It's only when they investigate they realise the oil has been stolen. But there are steps you can take to deter thieves.

"Fit a good quality close shackle padlock, which is more difficult to remove with bolt-croppers. Remote electronic oil level gauges are also available, which will set off an alarm if the level in the tank suddenly drops, or falls below a quarter full.

"These gauges cost between £70 and £100 and can be fitted indoors. Thieves will think twice before forcing their way through a prickly hedge, and the smallest trace of blood or shred of ripped clothing could provide enough evidence to identify the offender."

Security lights and a lockable cage around the oil tank are also options to consider.

MP's inquiry call over Lockerbie bomber's release

AN INQUIRY should be held into the controversial release of the Lockerbie bomber, says rookie MP Damian Collins, ***writes Steve Knight***.

The member for Folkestone and Hythe secured a debate on the issue at Westminster on Tuesday, when he raised questions about negotiations in the months leading up to the convicted terrorist's return to Libya.

Despite being responsible for an explosion that killed 270 people, most of them American, on board a transatlantic flight in December, 1988, Abdelbaset al-Megrahi was freed by the Scottish government in August, 2009, after serving eight years of a life sentence.

Mr Collins is now calling for answers after suggestions that the UK was prepared to agree to the release of the prisoner – who is terminally ill – in return for the protection of British commercial interests in Libya.

He said: "The memorandum of understanding between the UK and Libyan governments that led to the negotiation of the prisoner transfer was agreed in the same month BP signed its agreement with Libya.

"The relationship between UK commercial interests and the fate of Al-Megrahi has been a constant thread throughout.

"This angered many around the world, particularly the families of the Lockerbie victims. I ask that we have either a full disclosure from the Government of the decision-making process or an inquiry."

Mr Collins secured the debate after the release of a report by the US Senate that accused British officials of pressurising the Scottish government to free the bomber on "flawed" compassionate grounds.

The report suggests a £580 million BP oil deal the Libyans had threatened to cut off, along with a £106m deal with General Dynamics, were motivating factors for the former Labour government. Prime Minister David Cameron has instructed cabinet secretary Sir Gus O'Donnell to review correspondence between former justice secretary Jack Straw and Scottish ministers.

Justice minister Crispin Blunt said during Tuesday's debate that Sir Gus's report will be published "very shortly".

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Tug savings are 'drop in ocean'

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A GOVERNMENT agency has defended the decision to scrap an emergency tug in the English Channel, claiming it was not the best use of public money.

The controversial removal of the Anglian Monarch from the Dover Straits – one the busiest shipping lanes in the world – along with three other UK tugs in September will save £10 million a year.

A Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) spokesman said the public should not be made to foot the bill when ships get into trouble on the seas.

Dover's tug is sent out to tow stricken vessels to safety to avoid an environmental disaster – many of the hundreds of ships passing through the English Channel each day carry oil and chemical waste. But the MCA spokesman said it was the responsibility of ship owners to remove their vessels from the Channel, not the Government.

"If every time an articulated lorry was to break down at the side of the road the public had to pay to get it towed, people would not be very happy," he said.

"We are confident capacity in the commercial salvage industry will be enough to cover the removal of the tugs."

But opposition is mounting, with conservationists claiming it leaves no protection from oil spills where ships carrying pollutants could be left out at sea.

French authorities – who pay half the Anglian Monarch's costs – are also against the move, with Pas de Calais council president Dominique Dupilet saying the savings would mean nothing if there was a maritime catastrophe.

Campaigner Jean Hendry, from Thanet, said: "Its cost is shared 50-50 with France, where its presence is greatly valued. It is something we cannot afford to live without."

Maritime union Nautilus warned that axing the four emergency towing vessels was gambling with lives and the environment.

General secretary Mark Dickinson said: "The thinking behind this is utterly incomprehensible and we will do all that we can to persuade the Government to reconsider.

"The number of recent incidents and near misses in the Channel alone serves to demonstrate the value of these vessels and it is clear that Government is running significant risk in removing the protection they provide.

"The proposed savings represent a drop in the ocean in terms of the overall Department for Transport budget, but the loss of these services could make the difference between life and death, or an environmental disaster."

Anglian Monarch was called out on Christmas Eve to help a stricken cargo ship where three crewmen were suffering smoke inhalation after a fire on board.



Picture: ROGER FOURNIER

TURNING TIDE: Anglian Monarch will be withdrawn from the Dover Straits in September

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Binman crushed in village horror

A DUSTMAN died after being crushed by the massive jaws at the rear of his bin lorry.

Horrified residents watched as Adeyinka Aderoba became trapped in the waste crusher of his lorry at 12.40pm on Tuesday, in the village of Eastry, near Sandwich.

The worker, originally from Nigeria, was emptying household bins into the back of the truck when he got trapped by the metal jaws and was crushed. Firefighters worked to free Mr Aderoba from the mechanism, but he was pronounced dead at the scene after suffering injuries to his head and torso.

The 44-year-old worker was employed by SITA, the firm contracted by Dover District Council to collect refuse and recycling.

Paul Vanstone, of Kent Fire and Rescue Service, said: "The man was in the back of the truck where the refuse goes and firefighters had to find a way of reversing the mechanism off him."

A SITA official said: "Our thoughts and condolences are with Mr Aderoba's family and friends at this time. We are offering counselling for staff."

Hugh's fishing line

TV CHEF Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall examined the plight of Kent fishermen during a documentary broadcast this week.

South Thanet MP Laura Sandys also featured in the Channel 4 show, Hugh's Fish Fight, to call for an end to EU rules that force fishermen to throw dead fish back into the sea.

"At a time when resources are under increasing pressure, it is madness that half of all fish caught have to be thrown back," she said.

"Heavy-handed regulation needs to be addressed. We must ensure fish stocks are properly managed while also enabling our fishermen to earn a living."

Coalition leaves county seeking Stack solutions

THE decision last week by the Coalition Government not to fund a 3,000-space lorry park near Ashford was a blow to solving the problems caused by Operation Stack, ***writes Ed Hill***.

But Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter still wants to press ahead with the plan, funding it through private investment, money collected from foreign drivers, or cash generated by the Dartford crossing.

The proposal is designed to solve the problems caused by Operation Stack, implemented when the Port of Dover is shut because of bad weather or industrial action.

The M20 is closed between junctions 8 and 9, and 11 and 12, and turned into a lorry park for freight heading to the port. But Stack causes gridlock in the surrounding area, as traffic moves onto the A20 and other roads.

And campaigners against the proposed site, just off the M20 between the villages of Aldington, Sellindge and Smeeth, say a lorry park is not the answer.

Simon Foster, of the Lorry Park Alliance, says there needs to be a combination of short and long-term solutions to the increasing freight traffic on Kent's roads.



PROTEST: Resident's banner at Aldington

He said: "Fifty per cent of all the country's foreign freight traffic comes through Dover and the estimates for growth show more will be generated from the ferries."

Mr Foster, a former Ashford councillor with years of experience in the transport sector, says the country's import and export traffic needs to be shared with more ports around the country.

The lorry park proposed by KCC would take 500 lorries every night, with space for a further 2,500 being made available if there was disruption for trucks trying to get across the Channel.

Mr Foster said: "There is a truckstop in Ashford which could be enlarged. Drivers have to stop because of regulations on driving hours anyway. People say foreign drivers don't park there because they don't want to spend the money, but most of the time it is because it is already full, particularly at weekends."

The truckstop in Sevington has space for 335 lorries. Mr Foster said: "I'm sure the owners would be happy to see that increased to 500. It could also be linked to building the new 10a junction."

That project, just along the M20 from Aldington, has been put on hold for five years, but linking it to space for lorries could give extra impetus for it being built.

Mr Foster said the moveable barrier used to separate HGVs from other lanes of the M20 during Stack had worked well between junctions 11 and 12, and should also be used between 8 and 9. Others have looked at finding an alternative to paving over 70 acres of land in the heart of the county.

Sean Fury, of Protect Kent, said: "We want to explore creating more parking at Dover. The port is what generates the problem. The potential for disruption if one of the new superferries is cancelled is massive.

"These companies are making money out of the traffic. They should be involved in a solution. It comes down to cost and who pays. The port would want to do everything it could to pass that on to someone else."

20p discount crossings 'not under threat'

FEARS the Government may scrap the Dartford Crossing discount scheme for residents have been dismissed by the town's Conservative MP.



CROSSING: QEII bridge at Dartford

Motorists who live in Dartford are only charged 20p to use the crossing, compared with £1.50 for other users, but the Labour leader of Thurrock council, Cllr John Kent, claims the reduction is in danger of being cut. However, MP Gareth Johnson has accused him of "manufacturing a scare story" and told KoS he was confident the discount scheme was here to stay.

"Far from being removed, the Department for Transport is encouraging more people to take up the scheme," said Mr Johnson. "That's not the actions of a Government that wants to get rid of it. Cllr Kent is crying crocodile tears. If he or any other Labour politician was that bothered, then at least one Labour MP would have bothered to attend a recent debate I secured on this in the Commons. He's manufacturing a scare story and reading too much into things."

In October the Government announced that from 2012 car drivers should pay £2.50 to cross the Thames – a £1 increase on the current price and £1.50 more than it was two years ago.

Warning

Cllr Kent's warning to Thurrock residents – who are eligible for the same discount as those in Dartford – was made in response to a letter by roads minister Mike Penning to Thurrock's Conservative MP Jackie Doyle-Price.

In it the minister states that as part of a public consultation into the increased charges, he will also set out "any impacts" on the discount scheme. However, Mr Johnson said he believed this referred to the possibility that the 20p charge for motorists will also go up in line with the increased costs for non-locals.

"At no stage during the recent debate did Mr Telling indicate the discount scheme was likely to be scrapped," he added. "There's nothing on any piece of correspondence I've received that suggests that either. The discount is the one positive thing the residents of Dartford get back from the crossing, so it would be wrong for it to be removed."

When the QEII bridge opened in 1991, motorists were told they would only be charged until the building costs had been met. Despite this happening nine years ago, charges remain in place. A Department for Transport official said: "We will set out in a consultation document early this year detailed proposals for revised charges."



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ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

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CHRISTMAS has come and gone, the new year celebrations are over and January – arguably the dullest month of the year – is here.

Most people could do with a boost about now, and there's no better way to kick start the new year than with a new carpet from your local specialists at Diamond Floorings in Ashford

Diamond Floorings' new showroom on Ashford's Orbital Park offers a wide range of carpets and vinyls that can brighten your home, lift your spirits and make your home a nicer place to be during those long, winter evenings.

You won't even have to worry about shifting the furniture, since Diamond Floorings offers a completely stress-free fitting service that means they – not you – do all the work.

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NEW SHOWROOM: Ashford's Orbital Park

"Customers don't want to have to manhandle furniture or clear up after their carpet fitters," explained Trevor. "Unlike some fitters, we think that's our job, so we get on with it. All we want the customer to do is to admire their new carpet or flooring once we've finished laying it."

It is a philosophy that has seen Diamond Floorings achieve wall-to-wall success in just a few short years. After setting up in 2006 as a mobile flooring company working from the back of a van, Trevor opened a brand new showroom on Ashford's prestige Orbital Park at the end of the summer.

Classy

Visitors to the classy new showroom can check out flooring from the likes of Victoria, Penthouse and Georgian as well as Westex Quickstep, Altro, Tarkett, Polyflor, Karndean, Amtico, Heuga Interface, JHS, Heckmondwike, Gradus, Ball & Young and Duralay.

"It's taken a lot of hard work, but focusing on customer service and a quality product has paid off," Trevor explained.

"Although I launched the mobile business during a difficult time, I must have done something right, as 90 per cent of the company's work is either repeat business or comes through word-of-mouth referrals from existing customers who know that we can deliver on quality and price.

"It was because of the increasing number of referrals that I decided I would have to open a permanent showroom just to cope with the demand, and the response has been astonishing."

Customers who have experienced the high levels of service on offer from Trevor and his team will also be pleased to know that he is now planning to launch a carpet and upholstery cleaning service early in the New Year.

"The details are still being worked out, but it will be a dry clean system as that is much better for the carpet, and it will be very environmentally friendly," Trevor explained.

Fantastic

"One thing I do know is that this system delivers fantastic results and means that carpets will be usable again as soon as they are cleaned."

Meanwhile for those who are looking for a new carpet, Diamond Floorings is the area's only supplier for the exclusive British-made Victoria Carpets range and for Karndean designer floor tiles.

Both domestic and business customers are welcome at the new showroom, which has a much more intimate feel than the traditional warehouse-type building.

"I am determined to continue to offer the personal service that has helped us to get to this position," said Trevor, "and we have made sure that the showroom is a friendly and relaxing place to explore what we have to offer.

"If January is starting to get you down, just get in touch with Diamond Floorings and we can provide the pick up you need."

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Giving you the power to make green choices

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

COMMUNITIES are being given a helping hand on how to generate their own energy in a bid to create a self-sufficient future.

Environmental expert Sean Furey, deputy director of Protect Kent – the county's branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England – has published a book showing residents how they can create sustainable communities without relying on harmful fossil fuels.



Keeping the Lights On: Kent's Future Generation discusses the different technologies to generate energy, including the pros and cons and how they work.

Mr Furey told KoS it differed from other publications because it was unbiased and steered away from complicated scientific explanations.

"There isn't a book like this," he said. "Most campaign groups have their own agenda – such as Greenpeace being anti-nuclear – so they are often biased in their advice, but this book tells people what technologies are out there without pushing an agenda.



SIMPLE: Sean Fury, left, says his book gives unbiased explanations of green technology

"It sets out the advantages and disadvantages of each technology, while giving a simple description which people can understand.

"It's useful because energy prices are going up like mad at the moment.

"There's the Government's Feed In Tariff scheme, where people who generate their own electricity from renewable or low carbon sources can sell it back to the National Grid and make some money."

Mr Furey said the book was a product of conferences looking at the impact of climate change held by Protect Kent.

"There is so much going on in Kent, for example there are 13 power stations," he said.

"But power stations are coming to the end of their lives and climate change means we have to move away from fossil fuels.

"The UK is also massively dependent on North Sea oil, but all it takes is a disagreement with Russia or Ukraine and prices go up. This is reflected in everything, for example, gas companies put their prices up and even when oil prices go down, these companies tend to leave the prices the same."

Mr Furey said community and individual action can be taken to help the UK move away from such dependence. Examples given in the book include solar panels, insulation, building heat exchangers and smart meters.

Mr Furey said Kent already had some leading eco-friendly developments, for example, Crossways, near Staplehurst, which is one the UK's first zero-carbon homes.

New social housing developments planned in Ashford and Maidstone are also set to meet high environmental building standards.

The biggest offshore wind farm in the world has been built off the Thanet coast, with a substation in Richborough near Sandwich, and a £60 million onshore wind farm has been built at Romney Marsh.

Chairman of Protect Kent Richard Knox-Johnston said: "There is no doubt that many of these new energy generating systems could have a major effect on the Kent countryside.

"In this publication we have attempted to set out the other ways in energy can be produced without despoiling the countryside."

See www.cprekent.org.uk for a copy.



Eco plan's a rotten way to fuel home

ONCE used for throwing at medieval criminals or livening up Elizabethan plays, rotten fruit has had its uses over the years.

But a Maidstone farmer is planning to take it to another level by using it to power and heat a new state-of-the-art eco-home.

Sean Charlton, of G Charlton and Sons, intends to create a self-sustainable home at Ivy Farm, at Liverton Hill in the Boughton Malherbe parish of Maidstone.

If plans go ahead, tonnes of fruit waste will be brought from his pack house once a week and fed into an anaerobic digester with will generate fuel to power the home – a building designed by Piers Gough, one of the country's leading architects and a former Kent Design champion.

Mr Charlton said he was excited about the possibility of making the eco-house a reality, with planning discussions at Maidstone council due next month.

Innovation

"I have been involved in all stages of the design and as a man of Kent who farms the land, I truly want to live closely within the apple orchards with my family," he said.

Planning agent Ria Drake, from DHA Planning, called the proposals exceptional and innovative.

"The anaerobic digester is a tried and tested sealed system, with no noise or smell issues, and the energy building will sit within existing farm structures," she said.

Ms Drake said the scheme reached level six of the Code for Sustainable Homes – the highest rating.

But while Mr Charlton is hoping plans will go through, opposition has been raised by Boughton Malherbe parish council.

Ron Galton, vice-chairman, said the proposed development was too big.

"This is a beautiful parish and has been for a very long time. The planned development would destroy it – that is the general feeling. We held a public meeting and it was packed. The parish have opposed the plans on behalf of the community."

Ms Drake, however, said the house design was proportionate to the 42 acres it would sit in and the building would be partially buried into the landscape.

She added: "The materials proposed draw inspiration from the Kentish vernacular, including peg tiles and ragstone."

A PUB in Brabourne Lees near Ashford is helping to tackle the shortage of allotments available to people who want to grow their own vegetables.

The Plough Inn has a disused field behind the children's play area and the pub's owner Shepherd Neame has agreed with the parish council to lease the land to local people.

Sue Wood, parish council clerk, said: "We were approached by a couple of residents who said they would like to have some allotments in the village.

"We then went to the company and we were delighted that they immediately came back to say they were happy to do it."

Television shows such as Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall's River Cottage series mean there is growing interest from the public who want to garden, but this demand means allotments are increasingly hard to find.

In Ashford there is a huge waiting list for council plots to become available, meaning people have to wait for years.

Work on preparing the ground is expected to start soon.

The pub hopes it will be an opportunity to source more local produce for its restaurant.

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Margate a 'shrewd investment'

Property prices expected to soar as town is regenerated

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

THE regeneration of one of Kent's best-loved seaside resorts is predicted to make it a prime target for profit-seeking homeowners.

Perhaps now recognised more for its boarded-up shops than beautiful sandy beaches, the millions being invested in Margate – once one of the UK's most popular tourist destinations – could be the boost it needs to bring about a return to its glory days.

And it is for this reason property firms are tipping the resort to buck sliding house price trends and instead offer shrewd investment opportunities for homeowners.

Jonathan Haward, chairman of the County Homesearch Company, said: "Last year was a challenging one for the property market, and the majority of the UK will see property prices stagnate or fall in 2011.

"However, all is not lost as unique circumstances will allow certain towns and villages to weather the storm.

"Margate is experiencing major regeneration and is certainly a sensible place to invest. The Turner Contemporary art gallery is opening in April, and a number of seaside bars and cafés are planned, together with new and renovated hotels, creating a cosmopolitan atmosphere.



BRIGHT FUTURE: Margate has been tipped as one to watch for property investors

"A housing renewal programme is in place, which will improve its long-term future as a place to live.

"With a one-bedroom apartment available from about £25,000 and a four-bedroom detached house from about £200,000, there are few other places in Kent offering such value for money."

Situated on Margate's seafront on the same site where JMW Turner stayed when visiting the town, the Turner Contemporary gallery will be the largest exhibition space in the South East outside of London.

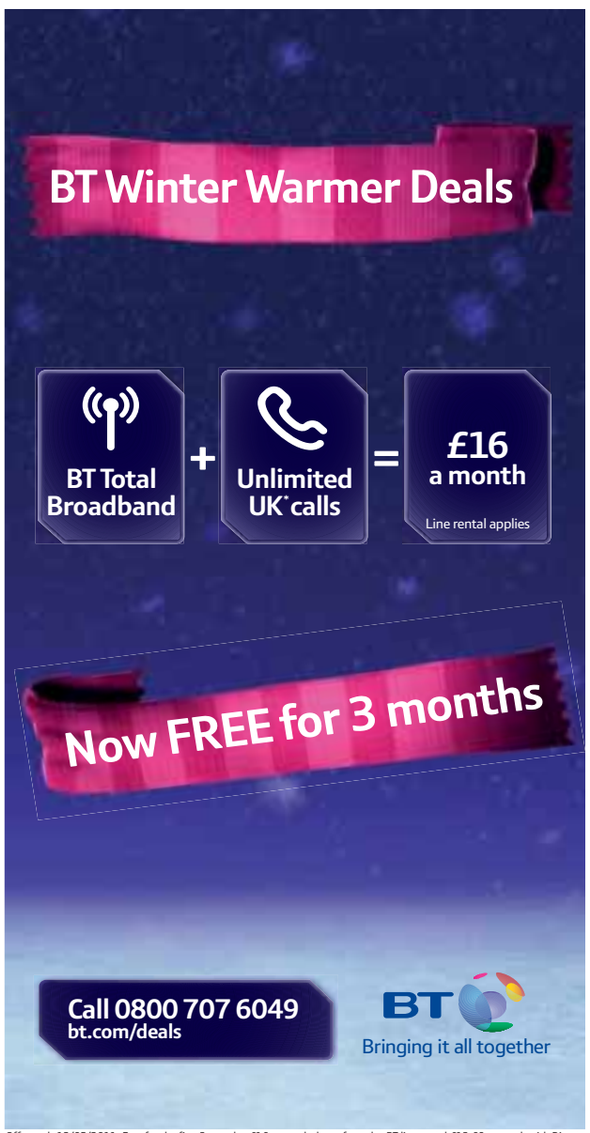
The £17.4 million development will open on April 16, and is expected to be the catalyst for a regeneration of the town.

North Thanet MP Roger Gale said: "Once the gallery opens there will be a huge demand for property in the area, and if I had the money I'd buy something there myself.

"If we could get the high-speed rail link extended to Thanet than the demand would be even higher, but at the moment it's of very little value to us at all.

"But one day somebody will finish the job and any long-term investor would do very well indeed to buy property in Margate."

The County Homesearch Company includes Margate among a list of six 'shrewd investment towns', which also includes the east London district of Dalston, Dunbar in south east Scotland, and Anglesey in north Wales. Northallerton in north Yorkshire and St Columb Major in Cornwall complete the list.



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Children's services boss quits KCC



REDUNDANCY: Rosalind Turner has left KCC

By STEVE KNIGHT
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

Post lost as child protection concerns raised

AN UNDER-FIRE senior council officer has left County Hall after a top level restructure resulted in the removal of her position.

Rosalind Turner, who as the managing director of children, families and education earned £180,000 a year, left Kent County Council after her offer of voluntary redundancy was accepted.

Mrs Turner's exit came just days before it was revealed that concerns had been raised over 541 of the 5,976 child protection cases reviewed by the authority so far.

The cases came to light after KCC received a 'poor' rating as part of Ofsted's annual assessment of children's services, which fell under Mrs Turner's control.

Council leaders had been warned such a verdict was likely after the watchdog rated its safeguarding and looked-after children services as 'inadequate' in November.

Areas of concern included the management and supervision of staff, low educational attainment of youngsters in care, and social workers with high caseloads.

Mrs Turner was also forced to issue a public apology last March when it emerged an inexperienced social worker failed to act on a warning about Tunbridge Wells resident Christopher Sellman, who went on to kill his baby daughter.

Also leaving KCC is the department's director of resources Grahame Ward, who oversaw Kent's Building Schools for the Future programme.

Mr Ward has also taken voluntary redundancy, and is believed to be taking early retirement.

Last week KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter unveiled the council's budget for 2010-11 and revealed the authority must identify savings of £95m.

A KCC spokeswoman said the restructure of senior staff would save the authority about £750,000, and £20 million would be clawed back once an estimated 1,500 posts are removed over the next three to four years.

She added: "Inevitably, there will be some people who feel they no longer fit in the new structure and will take voluntary redundancy.

"It is only fair and right that senior directors take a hit like everyone else."

KCC announced its plans for a top-level restructure last October, revealing several major changes.

It will have five new directorates each run by a corporate director: families and social care; customer and communities; enterprise and environment; business strategy and support; and education, learning and skills.

Personnel and development director Amanda Beer revealed at the time that the changes would affect 29 senior members of staff.

Refugee, 17, aims to help others in care

A TEENAGE refugee elected to Kent's Children in Care Council has vowed to help improve the lives of those living through the system.

Ali Danish, from Afghanistan, arrived in England in 2006. With no family in the UK he was taken into care.

Four years and an election later, the 17-year-old was made a member of the county's Children in Care Council (CICC) and has pledged to use his own experiences to try and better the lives of looked-after children.

It follows a damning Ofsted report into Kent County Council's child protection services which were labelled inadequate, and a follow-up review by KCC which found that 541 of the 5,976 cases showed cause for concern.

The CICC, which is made up of 12 youngsters who meet several times a year to discuss issues relevant to those in care, represents the county's 1,400 looked-after children, who were the focus of the Ofsted inspection.

Ali, who lives in Ramsgate, said the care council had already discussed the need to boost educational services for looked-after children, as well as careers and training opportunities.

He said: "Everything I've received from the care system I've been pleased with. I've been fortunate to have had good social workers and a caring foster parent."

But he stressed the importance of education to ensure a brighter future.

"Having the attitude and the drive to study depends on how well you're brought up and how well you're taught. School experience is obviously not the same for everyone, especially for children who are in care, because some of them come with a different past and different family problems."

CICC administrator Scott King, who was placed in care aged just six months old, said: "Can the council's 12 members make a difference? Yes, they can. Even one can make a difference.

"If one person comes up with one issue, if you sort that issue, the chances are you've sorted out a hundred people's issues."

CICC is supported by KCC and The Young Lives Foundation.



ATTITUDE : Education is vital, says Ali Danish

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No intervention over rail fare hike

By MARIJKE COX
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

A GOVERNMENT minister has refused to intervene in the ongoing rail fare dispute, stating the massive price hike was well within the rights of Kent's berated train firm.

Conservative transport minister Theresa Villiers wrote to North Thanet MP Roger Gale saying she would not approach Southeastern boss Charles Horton on the issue.

Mr Gale has condemned the ticket price rises which in some parts of Kent was as high as 12.8 per cent.

In a letter to the senior Tory backbencher, Ms Villiers said the train company was allowed to increase fares by inflation plus three per cent rather than the normal one per cent to cover improvements made to the network.

And she stressed that Southeastern was in fact free to increase prices by as much as five per cent plus inflation, so long as the average remained at three per cent plus RPI across the county.

She said: "I am fully aware of constituents' concern about the higher than average price cap that applies for Southeastern passengers.

"I am afraid the fare increases Southeastern is introducing are within the terms of the franchise agreement. I therefore have no standing to intervene with Charles Horton."

In some parts of Kent, season ticket holders saw fares rise to well above £5,000 as the train company introduced its new price list for 2011.

Kent's MPs were united in their fury at what they claimed were unfair increases for a poor service, with some, including Mr Gale, calling for Southeastern to be stripped of its franchise, which runs out in 2012.

If the company, however, continues to meet delivery targets it will be automatically offered a two-year franchise extension to 2014.

Southeastern said it had reached standards last year despite a disrupted service during December's heavy snowfall, where hundreds of passengers were left stranded on platforms or trains with little service information from the rail firm.



UNDER FIRE: Southeastern

Mr Gale called for a meeting with Ms Villiers to look into the matter, which has been scheduled for Tuesday, February 1.

He said: "All Kent MPs have been invited to discuss the Southeastern situation in the context of the future of the franchise, recent performance, and the desire to see an independent review of their timekeeping claims held."

Last week Southeastern released statistics showing it had run 82.04 per cent of its trains on time in the past year – a claim disputed by MPs and passengers.

Had the company fallen below the 82 per cent target, it would have been liable to pay season ticket commuters compensation of five per cent off fares.

MP for Rochester and Strood Mark Reckless, who has been campaigning for improved services, said: "Southeastern's attitude to its customers is, in my opinion, nothing short of disgraceful. I have received numerous complaints from constituents regarding the level of service, or lack thereof."

Rising star Gemma up for gong



BIG TIME: Gemma Arterton

KENT'S own Bond girl Gemma Arterton is in the running for this year's Bafta Rising Star award.

Gravesend-born Arterton, 24, is up against Inception star Tom Hardy, new Spiderman actor Andrew Garfield, US actress Emma Stone and Kick-Ass star Aaron Johnson for the honour.

The actress hit the big time in 2008 when she appeared against 007 Daniel Craig in Quantum of Solace.

Arterton said she was "thrilled" to be nominated for the award, and added: "I'm in very good company with the other actors who have been nominated."

Arterton has also starred in Clash of the Titans, Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time, and Stephen Frears' Tamara Drewe.

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Double trouble for motorists



KEEP MOVING: Double parking and blocking dropped kerbs could cost drivers dear

TRAFFIC wardens are to be given new powers to issue fines for double-parked cars or vehicles left in front of dropped kerbs.

Kent County Council is expected to adopt Government legislation introduced as part of the 2004 Traffic Management Act, and give permission to the 12 district and borough councils to issue more penalty notices.

However, wardens will still not be allowed to issue tickets for cars parked across driveways, as they will not know if the driver has received permission to do so.

Members of KCC's environment, highways and waste policy overview and scrutiny committee will be asked to approve the new powers at a meeting on Tuesday.

A report states additional wardens will not be employed, so there will be no extra cost to enforcing the new restrictions.

It adds: "There may be a limited additional income through the issuing of penalty charge notices, but it is to be noted that parking enforcement is a necessary tool to ensure good traffic management and road safety, not to generate an income stream."

The charge for parking offences stands at £70, reduced by half if paid within a fortnight. KCC is keen to clamp down on motorists who park in front of dropped kerbs, which officers say inconveniences people – particularly those pushing prams or using wheelchairs or mobility vehicles – trying to cross the road.

KCC defines double parking as leaving a car 50cm or more from the kerb, and says it contributes to congestion and is an inconvenience for other road users.

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Remembering the victims of genocide

MEMORIAL services will be held across Kent this month as people of all faiths gather to remember the victims of the Holocaust, ***writes Steve Knight***.

The genocide of six million men, women and children by the Nazis during World War Two continues to evoke horror across the globe, and on January 27 people will unite in grief once more.

Ramsgate, Deal and Rochester are among the towns due to hold services for Holocaust Memorial Day, which has been held in the UK since 2001 and was declared an international event by the United Nations in 2005.

"The Holocaust continues to have a lasting effect, all the way through to the second, third and fourth generations of Jewish people," said Godfrey Fischer, senior warden of Thanet and District Reform Synagogue.

"It's difficult to understand how humanity could produce someone [Adolf Hitler] who through hatred or fear could target one people for their own gain.

"But it's not just the Jewish community that has been affected. You also have to think about the relatives of Germans who were adults during the war, who have discovered what terrible things their parents or grandparents did.

"The Holocaust has had an effect everywhere, yet awful things still happen in the world – I have no answer as to why."

Hitler's 'final solution' for occupied Europe was aimed at eliminating 'non-Aryans', including Jews, gypsies and the mentally and physically disabled. Political opponents of the Nazi regime were also targeted.



HELL ON EARTH: Gates to Auschwitz

Many were sent to death camps such as Auschwitz, where they were shot, gassed or starved to death, before being buried in mass graves or cremated on an industrial scale.

In addition to marking the 66th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz – on January 27, 1945 – this year's Holocaust Memorial Day will also remember the victims of more recent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. Mr Fischer said it was important to raise awareness of the atrocities.

"Children have an inherent grasp of what is right and wrong, and one hopes that is included in their school curriculum and taught by their parents," he said.

"But unless events like the Holocaust are taught in school, how will they know what not to do in the future? If we don't teach the difference between right and wrong, they can't make that choice."

Visit www.hmd.org.uk for a full list of Holocaust Memorial Day events in the UK.

County Hall seat is electoral prize

A BY-ELECTION will be held next week to fill a vacant seat on Kent County Council.

The public vote, taking place on Thursday, January 20, is being held to fill the vacancy left by the death of Cllr Godfrey Horne MBE.

The long-serving Conservative county councillor for Tonbridge, who was 67, died after a brief illness on November 13, last year.

The candidates bidding to fill his seat are Alice Hohler for the Conservatives, Liberal Democrat Garry Bridge, Emily Williams for Labour, Hazel Dawe for the Green Party, and Ukip's David Waller.

Dumped horses dismay RSPCA

DEAD horses are being dumped in quiet country lanes, says the RSPCA.

The latest incident was on Sunday, last week, but officers have reported a rise in such cases over the last four months.

RSPCA inspector David Grant said: "The horses may have died lingering, painful deaths and are then just left by the roadside."

The latest was dumped in Southernden Road, Headcorn. The bay mare was thin and had been tied to a tree.

Mr Grant said: "Those doing this don't want to pay for a vet or disposal of the body. The mare was just skin and bone."

Anyone with information can contact the RSPCA on 0300 123 4999.

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TWO men were charged with drug offences after a police raid on The Papermakers pub in Upper Stone Street, on January 7. Billy Wells, 22, of Mangravet Avenue, Maidstone, was charged with possessing cocaine. Wells, along with a 17-year-old charged with possession of cannabis, was bailed to appear before Maidstone magistrates on January 25.



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'Jams tomorrow without freight action plan today'

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

ROAD-user groups have warned the Government that it ignores congestion problems surrounding the Port of Dover at its peril.

Supporting 22,000 jobs and handling £80 billion of trade each year, Dover is the busiest roll-on/roll-off port in Europe. But campaigners claim its future growth will be stifled unless improvements to Kent's roads are supported and funded by the Department for Transport.

These include a widening of the A2 between Lydden and Dover, a crawler lane for slow-moving lorries on the A20, and a long-term solution to Operation Stack. Ian Taylor, assistant regional organiser of the Association of British Drivers (ABD), addressed the issue at last week's meeting of the Dover port consultative committee. He also gave a presentation on potential solutions to congestion, drawn up in partnership with the Dover A20 Action Group.

Mr Taylor said: "The Channel corridor is a strategic link of national importance and vital to the economy.

"For Dover to thrive, the port must thrive. For the port to thrive, provision must be made for future increases in traffic – especially goods vehicles. We know there's no money right now, but we want to be there when things get going again."



ON A ROLL: But Kent's road infrastructure needs improving, say critics

Other suggestions include a buffer zone for pre-sorting dock traffic before it reaches the town, and the widening of the M2 between Canterbury and Medway.

Mr Taylor says the proposals have been received favourably by both the Port of Dover and the Tunbridge Wells-based Freight Transport Association, and that Dover MP Charlie Elphicke had agreed to lobby the Government.

"Such plans take years to materialise and I'm reminded of that old slogan – jam tomorrow," said Mr Taylor. "Well, one kind of jam we've seen too much of is traffic. It's time for commitment and action."

Last month, Kent County Council published its Growth Without Gridlock transport strategy for the next 20 years, which outlined plans for up to £475 million investment to deal with the predicted doubling of freight traffic through Dover.

Leader Cllr Paul Carter said the proposed third Thames crossing between Gravesend and Chadwell in Essex would allow for the "bifurcation" – division into two branches – of traffic heading to and from Dover.

He said: "Vehicles travelling by way of Dover's Eastern Docks would be encouraged to route via the lower Thames crossing and the M2/A2, while those travelling through the Western Docks or Channel Tunnel would be routed via Dartford and the M20/A20.

"This would greatly increase the efficiency of Kent's road network, helping the growth of Ashford, Dover and Maidstone by freeing up road capacity in the Channel corridor."

Cllr Carter wants to fund the improvements through a range of measures, including airport-style landing charges at the port and a road tax for foreign lorries.

• ***See Business Week inside for more on the port.***

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JAZZ superstar Jamie Cullum is playing a very special show in Kent, and we have two pairs of tickets to be won.

In this exclusive concert at the Winter Gardens Margate on Friday, February 4, Cullum will be joined by Ian Shaw and Liane Carroll, alongside a London band and two grand pianos, for an unmissable night of jazz and soul.

All profits from the event will benefit Margate Jazz Festival and The Vortex Jazz Foundation.

Archant KOS Media is the media sponsor of the show, as part of its ongoing support for the Margate Renewal Partnership.

Cullum has established himself as the UK's biggest-selling jazz artist of all time, and has performed and associated with a wide range of celebrated artists, including Stevie Wonder and Clint Eastwood, with whom he collaborated on the soundtrack of the film Gran Torino.

Ian Shaw was named Best Jazz Vocalist at the BBC Jazz Awards in 2004 and 2007, and is a natural born entertainer as well as a classy singer and pianist, cited as one of the world's finest male jazz vocalists.

Liane Carroll has been hailed by critics and fans alike as one of our very finest jazz singers, having picked up just about every British jazz award going in the last few years, including the 2008 Parliamentary Jazz Award for 'Musician Of The Year'.

The Big Sky Margate Jazz Festival is staged in July every year at venues around Margate and is presented in association with London's Vortex Jazz Club.

Now in its sixth year, the festival has gone from strength to strength, with a range of international and local artists making appearances.

Artistic director David Mossman said: "With the support of musicians and many locals, I'm proud to organise the Big Sky Margate Jazz Festival.

"The Piazza stage, against the spectacular backdrop of Margate harbour, plus good local food and hospitality, makes the festival a not-to-be-missed summer event."

Tickets for show are £27.50 and £25, available from Winter Gardens Box Office on 01843 296111/292795.

To be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Jamie Cullum Competition, Archant KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS.

The closing date is Monday, January 24, 2011.

Question: Which musical instrument does Jamie Cullum play?

A. Drums
B. Piano
C. Trumpet

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If you do not wish to receive any literature please write 'no literature' on your entry.

A MIDDLESBROUGH fan from Margate has been accused of throwing flares into the crowd as his team crashed out of the FA Cup against League Two Burton Albion last Saturday. The 38-year-old was one of five Boro supporters arrested at the game at Burton's Pirelli Stadium.

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Dial 'M' for royal marriage

By JON COATES
jon.coates@kosmedia.co.uk

DAME Judi Dench has filmed a commercial at Hever Castle aimed at attracting tourists to the UK as the focus of the world turns to this spring's Royal wedding.

The award-winning actress – who portrays 'M' in the James Bond spy movies – has been appointed an ambassador by tourism chiefs looking to cash in on the nuptials of Prince William and Kate Middleton, on April 29.

The promotional film, called Invitation to the World, is part of a £100 million drive to attract tourists to Britain and will be broadcast around the globe just days after the Royal wedding.

The marketing push by national tourisn agency VisitBritain also aims to capitalise on the Queen's diamond jubilee in the same year as the London 2012 Olympics.

Dame Judi, 76, was seen as the obvious choice to promote Britain's royal events. She won a Bafta in 1997 for playing Queen Victoria in Mrs Brown, and a best supporting actress Oscar for portraying Queen Elizabeth I in Shakespeare in Love a year later.

She chose to film the commercial at Hever Castle, describing the childhood home of Anne Boleyn as one her favourite places.


BEAUTY: Hever Castle

Fittingly, Prince William and his fiancée Ms Middleton, who are distantly related as 12th cousins once removed, are both descended from the Boleyn family, who owned Hever Castle between 1462 and 1538.

They are descended from Mary Boleyn, the older sister of Henry VIII's second wife Anne, who became his queen until losing her head.

Mary was a mistress of the monarch until her younger sister caught his eye, an intriguing story loosely told in the film The Other Boleyn Girl. The father of the famed sisters, Thomas Boleyn, is the 14th generation grandfather of Prince William and Kate Middleton. And Prince William, who is second in line to the throne, is also wanted as an ambassador for VisitBritain.

A spokesman for the agency said: "Britain is fortunate to have a wealth of globally recognised celebrities from entertainment, culture and sport. VisitBritain wants to capitalise on this by making them a central part of our £100m, four-year marketing campaign designed to create a permanent increase in tourism to the UK.

"We can confirm Dame Judi made a film for the campaign at Hever Castle. We will also be filming other British stars talking about their favourite aspects of Britain.

"Dame Judi's comments will be used, along with those of other celebrities, on a variety of channels including TV, online channels and social media. Top of our wish list are people such as David Beckham, Daniel Craig and Catherine Zeta Jones."


GREAT BRITON: Dame Judi Dench


BURNT OUT: Aftermath of the A20 rescue

Former firefighter saves A20 crash driver

A DRIVER'S life was saved by a former firefighter who dragged the motorist from a burning car after a crash.

Ian Ridgers, from Sheppey, used all his experience to rescue the 40-year-old victim after his car left the A20 near Maidstone, on Tuesday.

The vehicle slid down the bank at Hollingbourne before hitting a tree and bursting into flames. Mr Ridgers, who had been a firefighter based at the Sheppey station for 30 years, had just arrived for work at Leeds Castle when the crash happened.

He said: "I was talking to the gatekeeper when I heard the smash, so went up with the first aid kit and saw the car's engine was alight.

"The man was pinned to his seat by the steering wheel, so I got in through the back and managed to lower his seat a fraction which allowed us to get him onto the passenger side.

"I grabbed him round the waist while two other men took his arms and we pulled him out. He was in pain but there wasn't any option. Within seconds the compartment was alight. It was just instinct and years of experience and training took over."

Two fire crews from Maidstone arrived just after 7am and found the driver being treated by Mr Ridgers. Paramedics took the victim to hospital while crews extinguished the blaze, which had engulfed the car.

Fire service area manager Martin Adams said: "If not for Mr Ridgers' immediate action, quick thinking and leadership, the driver would have died."

Advertisement feature

Down with damp

Holland Damp Proofing dries out your home and is guaranteed to work

BRITAIN has taken a bit of a battering lately with snow and freezing temperatures affecting many of us.

But bad weather doesn't just make life difficult for us all, it can have a devastating effect on your home, too – in the form of damp.

Damp is a creeping menace that affects thousands of homes across Kent. It rots woodwork and carpets, peels wallpaper and causes fungus and mould growth on walls.

It is important to tackle the problem because ignoring damp can store up serious problems and pose potential health risks – especially if you have a medical condition such as asthma or rheumatism.

Treating your property for damp now will help to keep you warm and dry at this time of year. You could also save money because dry walls are better insulators, and a damp free home will feel more comfortable.

By KATIE HOLDEN

For years, people have tried to solve damp problems by applying waterproof coatings or injecting walls with chemical solutions. This can involve contractors coming into your home and drilling into brickwork to pump chemicals into the walls – hacking off and replacing plaster inside.

The work can be messy, intrusive and your home will need redecorating once it's been done. And, despite all this upheaval, there's no guarantee that it will work in the long term. Chemical barriers tend to break down over time and, once this happens, that damp will be back.

Holland Damp Proofing is a breath of fresh air that can permanently rid your home of the scourge of damp. The idea is simple: draw out the moisture and the damp will disappear!


EXPERT OPINION: Evert de Graaf with one of the damp-regulating bricks that have already been installed in thousands of UK homes.

The Holland Damp Proof System® involves a series of small damp-regulating bricks which neatly fit into specially prepared niches in the external walls of your home, close to the ground. These cleverly allow air to flow into the brick chambers and out again – circulating airflow through the inside of the wall which evaporates the moisture, drying out the wall and allowing it to breathe.

Holland's no-chemicals system is mess-free and as the work is completed from the outside there is no need to replaster. No chemicals, no mess and no replastering – your property dries out… and stays dry for good.

It can be used on most types of wall (including stone) and combines perfectly with cavity wall insulation.

The company prides itself on its high standards of customer service, HDP staff handle all aspects of the business and they don't use commission based sales people.

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The work took place 10 years ago and the damp hasn't returned. "It's not a problem anymore," says great-grandfather Arthur, 82.

"I must have been one of the first of Holland's customers and they did a great job. They got rid of my damp problem and it didn't come back. That's a good enough recommendation for me."

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GIVING VOICE: Nigel Wilson, inset, is pleased The King's Speech puts a spotlight on stammering

Film speaks up for stammerers

IT HAS received critical acclaim and is tipped to clear up at the Oscars, but for one group of people Hollywood film The King's Speech has proved to be more than just a good night out at the cinema, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

The blockbuster, starring Colin Firth, tells the story of how King George VI overcame his debilitating stammer to make him feel worthy of the throne.

Nigel Wilson, who lives in Folkestone and has suffered with a stammer since the age of three, said the film has given people with the neurological condition the chance to finally be heard.

And the NHS worker said for once, the 720,000 children and adults in the UK who stammer will be understood.

"There are misconceptions around stammering, one is that people with stammers are stupid, which just isn't true," he said.

"Unless it is caught very early stammering can't be cured – what we have to do is manage it and this was presented in the film.

"I think the film will raise awareness that stammering is not a small problem and not an easy thing to overcome."

Mr Wilson, who works with disabled children as a clinical technologist, said the condition has had a major impact on his life.

"I left school at 16 with a CSE in metal work. I started secondary school at midstream but I was moved into a remedial class because of my stammer," he said.

"Now I have a masters degree and other degree level qualifications, which shows that had I had support in school maybe I wouldn't have been in the lower stream."

Mr Wilson said while he had a successful 16-year career with multi-national company Xerox, moving through the ranks to a senior position, he chose to leave after struggling with communication.

"In my managerial role I had to make conference calls to factories in places like Malaysia and Hungary and it was difficult to do this," he said. "Introducing myself was hard as trying to say my name is the worst thing, it's one thing I can't avoid.

"You can learn tricks to cope with face-to-face situations but it's harder over the phone. For example in a pub I can point to the bitter I want."

Mr Wilson said stammering can be severely disabling, which is not always recognised. He said it was often difficult when socialising, but said it had not stopped him going out.

As well as trying his hand at stand-up comedy, Mr Wilson said he had also gone speed dating – where people have just three minutes to make a good first impression.

"It's difficult because people with stammers are defined by how they talk, unlike people with other disabilities," he said.

Mr Wilson said The King's Speech explores the methods used to manage stammers where Australian speech therapist Lionel Logue used then-unorthodox treatments to help the King, which are still used today.

"I've had different therapy over the years," said Mr Wilson. "Now it's much more holistic in nature. It's more to do with the cognitive side of speech and treatment, looking at the underlying causes.

"Stammering is just the tip of the iceberg – all the problems and anxieties that are going on below are the main issue. What we say is just the tip of everything."

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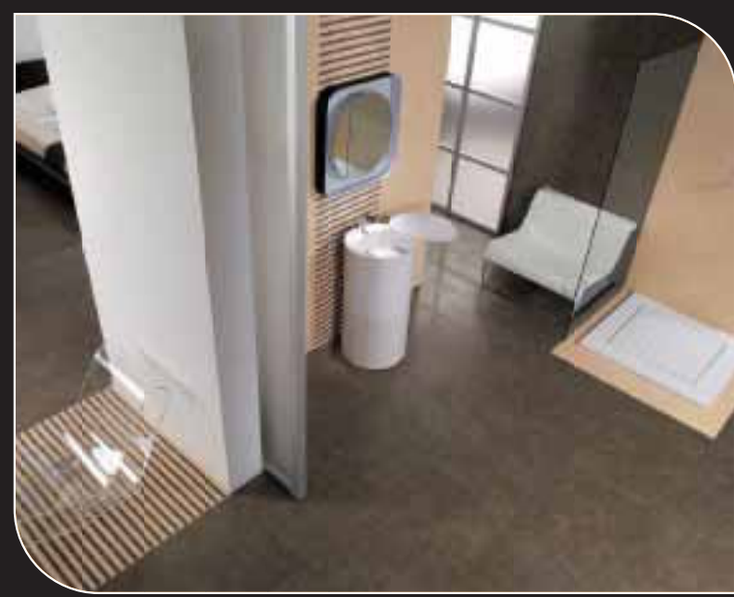
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Our schools' £2.4m debt among lowest in country

Bad management blamed for 'unacceptable' figures

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

MORE than a tenth of Kent's secondary schools were a total of £2.4 million in the red by the end of the last financial year.

According to figures released by the Department for Education, 12 of the county's 97 secondaries – about 12.4 per cent – operated at an average deficit of £202,000 per school.

Including primary schools, the total amount was £2.9m shared between 27 schools – an increase of £1.1m from 2008-09 when just 13 were in the red.

However, the percentage of all schools in deficit (4.7 per cent) is one of the lowest in the country and has earned Kent County Council praise for the financial support it offers.

"I can think of little excuse for running at a deficit," said Gravesend-based independent education adviser Peter Read. "The average deficit for secondary schools is about £200,000 but for some it will be considerably more, and I don't think that's acceptable.

"It's down to bad management, but having said that KCC has kept a tight grip on its schools to make sure the percentage of those in deficit is considerably lower than the national average."



BALANCED BOOKS: Despite the debt, overall the county's schools have a surplus of £40m

Nationally a total of 591 schools – or 18.4 per cent – were running at a combined deficit of more than £113m by the end of last year, while 28.8 per cent of schools were holding on to too much taxpayers' money by having 'excess surpluses'. The latter description applied to just five schools in Kent.

John Walder, secretary of the Kent branch of the National Union of Teachers, said he was not surprised some schools were running at a loss.

"Lately I've done little else than attend early consultation meetings on matters like school amalgamations, changes in school statuses and budget-inspired redundancies," he added. "These are teachers who would be standing in front of classrooms but are now being whittled away on all fronts.

"If a school builds up a deficit of a few thousand pounds then that might be okay, but if it's tens of thousands then they're told to restructure, that means getting rid of staff."

Despite his concerns, Mr Walder admitted the £2.9m total deficit was "small beer" compared to the total surplus of £40m in the county.

A Kent County Council spokesman said that four of the 27 schools in question had closed during 2008-9, and that the remaining 23 are working to an agreed recovery plan.

He added: "Kent has a small, dedicated team of professional staff who support schools in financial difficulty and has also invested heavily in financial management training for headteachers and governors.

"This includes ensuring schools prepare three-year forecasts so we can identify potential problems before they happen. It is a strategy that is very effective."

In Medway, seven of the unitary authority's 108 schools (6.5 per cent) were running at a total loss of £1.5m by the end of 2009-10.

The year before there were 10 schools in deficit but the total loss was lower at £1.1m.

A Medway Council spokesman said: "The council works closely with schools who are in deficit to support them with budget planning.

"As a result of this and actions taken by the schools concerned, they have been able to reduce expenditure and return to a surplus.

"We will continue to work with schools to help resolve any deficit they may have."



Petting farm may have to pay out millions in compensation

Justice for E.coli children

By **CHRIS BRITCHER**
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YOUNG twins who suffered acute kidney failure in the biggest outbreak of E.coli on an open farm in the UK, stand to be paid a big cash settlement after the farm confirmed it would not contest liability.

Aaron and Todd Furnell, from Paddock Wood, were aged just two when they visited a petting farm in Surrey.

While at Godstone Farm they both caught a dangerous strain of E.coli which caused them to suffer acute kidney failure. It lead to a lengthy spell in hospital and may lead to long term medical problems.

Last year, their parents launched a legal bid for compensation in a group action involving more than 20 other children from those affected.

And this week lawyers representing the family said the farm will "not contest" liability for personal injury and consequential loss. Which means it could now be faced with paying out millions in compensation.

A total of 93 people – 76 of them children under 10 – became ill after the outbreak in August, 2009. The farm shut four weeks after the first case.

Dialysis

Among those made ill were two-year-old twins Aaron and Todd Furnell from Paddock Wood – now aged three.

They both suffered acute kidney failure and spent weeks in hospital.

The law firm says medical evidence gathered so far suggests that some of the children are at risk of renal failure, which could lead to dialysis and the need for kidney transplants in future years.

The twins' mother, Tracy Mock, said: "I am very pleased that we have been successful in this case. As a family we have suffered significant pain and distress and may still not know for many years the long-term consequences for the twins' health.



NATURALLY OCCURRING: The strain of E.coli is harmful to humans when ingested

"In light of the farm's decision, we can take comfort in the fact that Todd, Aaron and the other children will have the financial support they need to deal with their current health problems and any that arise later in their lives."

Legal proceedings were launched in June 2010 by law firm Field Fisher Waterhouse on behalf of the twins, and representing some 27 children in total.

The farm initially defended the claim, despite the publication of the Health Protection Agency's report, The Griffin Inquiry, into the outbreak, which found there were numerous failings in the way in which the farm handled the outbreak and in its appreciation of the risk associated with E.coli 0157.

Confirmation by Godstone Farm that it will not be disputing the claim applies to all of the children represented in the group action. The level of financial support awarded to the families involved will be decided at a later hearing.

It is understood that the farm intends to pursue a claim for indemnity/contribution against Tandridge District Council and the Health Protection Agency.

According to the legal firm, one of the main arguments against the farm centred on the fact small children visiting the farm were allowed to enter the pens, so putting them into direct contact with animal faeces.

Owner of the farm, Jackie Flaherty, said: "All issues surrounding the E.coli outbreak in 2009 are being handled by the farm's insurers, so I cannot comment further on the legal aspects. However, in the last 15 months the children involved have never been far from our thoughts and prayers, particularly those who spent time in hospital."

E.coli 0157 is a particularly dangerous strain and can cause serious illness, including renal failure and death in children under five and the elderly. It is specifically carried in farm animals and was only discovered in 1975.

It is a relatively new strain of bacteria and is distinct from the E.coli that we all carry.

It has to be ingested by humans and is carried in the gut of animals and consequently their faeces. It does not cause illness in animals.

Prisoners paid to use the gym

MAIDSTONE Prison has been blasted for paying inmates to use the jail's exercise facilities.

It was revealed in a national newspaper that inmates were offered 50p to use the gym for a morning or afternoon session.

The Category C prison has been criticised by members of the TaxPayers' Alliance who are shocked that inmates get paid for exercise while ordinary members of the public have to face hefty gym bills.

Campaign manager at the TaxPayers' Alliance, Charlotte Linacre, said: "It seems unfair that prison inmates get paid to go to the gym while many taxpayers on tighter budgets can't afford luxuries like gym membership."

The jail's 600 inmates can only take part in two sessions per week and it has been reported the money is used at the prison tuck shop.

A Prison Service spokesman confirmed the payment, adding: "Convicted prisoners are required to work, encouraged to take part in education and to attend courses to address their offending behaviour.

"Those who refuse to participate do not receive any pay."



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Premier send off for soldier

By **NICK AMES**
nick.ames@kosmedia.co.uk

DOVER soldier Gaz Meachin and his son Jordan received a special good luck message before he deployed to Afghanistan – from the stars of Premiership club Chelsea.

Sergeant Meachin, 31, a member of the Royal Logistic Corps, is currently on a six-month tour in Helmand province.

But before he went he visited Chelsea's Cobham training ground. Along with 10-year-old son Jordan, he went to the fence to see if he could catch a glimpse of any of the players as they turned up for practice.

England star Frank Lampard saw the father and son waiting outside, with Sgt Meachin in uniform, and decided they had to get into the ground – so the pair were given the opportunity to spend the morning watching the players train.

They also met up with captain John Terry, goalkeeper Petr Cech and French midfielder Florent Malouda.

Jordan, a pupil at St Mary's Primary School in Dover, said he was excited about the whole day and on returning to school was the envy of all his friends – especially as when leaving the pitch, Terry took off his boots, signed them, and gave them to Jordan.

Sgt Meachin explained: "The players were very supportive and bent over backwards to accommodate us and to make it a special day for Jordan.



GOOD LUCK: Frank Lampard invited Sgt Gaz Meachin and son Jordan to watch Chelsea practice

"All the team members were really down to earth and genuinely nice blokes; they were really interested in where I was going and what I was doing.

"We're hoping to see Chelsea play Blackburn at home (on Saturday) when I come home for my two weeks of R&R, so that's something that's been keeping me going throughout the early stages of my tour."

Sgt Meachin, of the Royal Loyal Logistic Corps, is currently attached to The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, 5th Battalion The Royal Regiment of Scotland working as a combat chef.

He is based at the Helmand Police Training Centre outside Lashkar Gah and previously served in Northern Ireland, Bosnia and Iraq, but this is his first tour of Afghanistan.

5 Scots deployed to Afghanistan as part of 16 Air Assault Brigade, and are responsible for training and mentoring the Afghan National Police and bringing the force up to a sufficiently high standard to take over security responsibilities currently performed by British and Nato troops. They will remain in Helmand until April, 2011.

There are currently around 117,000 fully-trained Afghan National Policemen in Afghanistan and the aim is to reach a target of 134,000 by the end of 2011. 5 Scots' work in Helmand province represents a key part of achieving this target.

Sgt Meachin said: "The best thing about being here in Afghanistan – and about being in the Army in general – is being part of such a great team. Everyone has their own part to play in achieving success. 5 Scots are making great progress here and I'm very proud to be part of that."

Setting his sights on bringing peace

A YOUNG soldier from Dartford is on his first tour of Afghanistan, working as part of a gun detachment in southern Helmand.

Gunner Jonathan Long, 21, is based in the Nahr-e Seraj area of Helmand province. He is part of a gun detachment that provides offensive fire support to troops on the ground as they battle Taliban fighters.



Having joined the Army in 2006, Gnr Long, who attended Hexstable School in Dartford, is a member of G Parachute Battery (Mercer's Troop), part of 7th Parachute Regiment Royal Horse Artillery, based in Colchester.

In the UK Gnr Long works in the mechanised transport department, maintaining and preparing vehicles for deployment.

But while on operations, he works as part of a team that brings into action, performs maintenance, and fires the L118 105mm howitzer artillery gun.

Gnr Long's role is known as Number 2; it is his responsibility to ensure the round is sufficiently rammed up the barrel, allowing room for the charge, so that the round can be fired to the correct distance.

He said: "Although what I enjoy most when we're on exercise is a good rate of fire, we are winning the battle and large amounts of artillery are rarely needed now.

"The emphasis is on making life more peaceful and normal for the Afghan people. That said, I am sure it is comforting to the lads on the ground to know we are ready to support them if required."



READY FOR ACTION: The Tongan soldiers perform a traditional war dance

Troo

TROOPS from the Tongan Defence Force have deployed for the first time to Camp Bastion in southern Afghanistan after a period of training at the ranges in Hythe.

The Royal Tongan Marines have commenced security duties with coalition troops at Camp Bastion in Helmand Province – and celebrated their arrival with a war dance called the Sipi Tau.

The Tongan troops are serving with the Camp Bastion Force Protection Wing, where they guard the base perimeter and assist with manning the entry control points.

Flight Sergeant Morgan Price from the RAF Police said: "Camp Bastion is the main logistics hub in Helmand Province.

"An insurgent attack on Camp Bastion has the potential to affect operations far beyond the base. It is therefore vital that is assured through stringent search measures."

Tongan Royal Marine, Lance Corporal Taniela Akauola said: "I enjoy working alongside the RAF Police, already we are a good team."

To mark the start of their duties at Camp Bastion, the Tongans paraded in front of their National Component Commander, Cdr Satisi Vunipola and the Camp Bastion Group Captain Guy van den Berg.

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pers' war dance

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LOCAL SUPPORT: Shaun Magee

From new recruit to police instructor

CANTERBURY-based soldier Shaun Magee was only five weeks out of basic training when he deployed to Afghanistan.

But in a very short time he has gone from pupil to instructor as he is mentoring the Afghan National Police (ANP) as part of his deployment with 5 Scots.

At the police traning centre just outside Helmand's provincial capital Lashkar Gah, soldiers from the battalion work with other military groups to deliver training to the Afghan police officers.

This includes the basic military skills the ANP will require to protect themselves and the community.

The main focus of the lessons, however, is on policing skills and the emphasis is on turning the trainees into a professional and respected policing force. Around 95 per cent of all recruits are illiterate and innumerate and so the eight-week course includes 42 hours of reading and basic maths.

Pt Magee said: "It's good to know you are making a real difference and improving security for normal people in Afghanistan.

"The main challenge is the language barrier. Everything has to be done through an interpreter – but I've learned a few phrases to help me interact with the recruits."

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LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817001, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

New MPs can stop whining

So, Roger Gale thinks the Independent Parliamentary Standards Authority is creating an "expenses nightmare" for new MPs.

Correct me if I'm wrong, but surely all these new MPs were elected after the expenses scandal of 2009 so must have been aware that there would be a tightening up on claims.

The new rules were clearly set out well before the 2010 election so cannot have come as a surprise.

It used to be that anyone entering a career in politics stated their reason for so doing was to "make a difference" – not to line their pockets with claims for the pruning, cleaning a moat, claiming for the mortgage on a property already owned, etc. If anyone has found a fall-off in their standard of living on a salary of £65,000 then perhaps a return to a previous career beckons.

At a time when public sector workers have their pay frozen, pensioners have had no increase, thousands of jobs are under threat from swingeing and unnecessary cuts, universities are having funding slashed by up to 80 per cent, Sure Start centres are having funding reduced, local authorities face massive cuts in grants and still have to protect frontline services, homeowners worry about losing their home and those dependent on benefits are seeing those reduced or even being removed, then this whingeing from MPs can only make the voting public think that nothing has changed.

No-one forced any MP to enter Parliament and, judging by the number of candidates, there's no shortage of prospective politicians.

The Prime Minister and his Chancellor keep telling us we're all in this together. Perhaps MPs should listen and set an example.

Jennifer Matterface, Broadstairs

OPINION: ENOUGH IS ENOUGH, GUYS

It's amazing what computers can do nowadays, so **CHRIS BRITCHER** will be delighted if PC World's Tech Guys can use theirs to locate his missing laptop

SENDING a computer off to be repaired can be something of an emotional wrench in this day and age. After all, we tend to organise our lives by them.

Correspondence now lurks in email folders rather than scattered willy-nilly across our desks. Our music collection lives on a hard-drive, rather than lovingly positioned on shelves in alphabetical order and divided by genre.

Or is that just me?

Our photographs no longer get developed, they simply get transferred from digital camera to computer. Even books are increasingly being read on-screen rather than the old-fashioned way of turning pages.

So where once the computer was a glorified word processor with the ability to play games, today it is at the very heart of our day-to-day operations.

Social calendar, entertainment hub and essential resource, all rolled into one. And that's before you even begin to think about the sensitive information that resides within when it comes to access to bank details and various online accounts. Like, for example, my laptop. A machine which never left my home. A machine handled with care. A machine bursting with the latest anti-virus protection and all the other devices I could lay my hands on to keep it safe. To keep all my data safe.

So when the keyboard started to play up, I thought to myself: "Help is at hand."

Since buying it at PC World two years ago, I've been paying a penny off £10 a month for a contract with The Tech Guys – the horribly American sounding name for their technical support.

After all, the problem was only that I couldn't type the @ sign and sometimes the caps lock would take on a life of its own. Surely that was a simple enough problem for them to resolve?

So, on December 9, off it went. Picked up from my office and whisked away to be fixed, with a promise it would be back to me within three weeks at the latest. I put all my doubts and rotten experiences of the past behind me. I had faith in this company. I had faith in the staff… oops.

After three weeks I had heard nothing. So I called and was told due to the weather I would not be receiving my machine back until the first week on January. Fine. It had been repaired, and was undergoing some quality assurance tests.

Okay by me. Two days later, however, I got a phone call informing me the machine was heading back my way and would be delivered on December 28 – a bank holiday. I was impressed. And, fortunately, working, so I would be there.



With a crushing inevitability, the delivery failed to show. I rang and they said it was still due. Still nothing. "Next day", they said. Still nothing.

I rang again and was told it was all a mistake – it's still in the workshop. Okay, I sigh, just as long as I get it back sooner rather than later. The first week of January arrives and a delivery driver appears – without my machine. It's on his list, but not on the lorry.

Patience is, they say, a virtue. And I normally have a reasonable amount of it in reserve. But it's running out fast in this situation.

So where is my laptop, I ask? It's lost, is the response. What's more, according to their records, it went missing on December 22. Two weeks ago. Two weeks during which they claimed to be delivering it twice.

A duty of care to customers? A competent repairs team who have some understanding of what each department is doing? A level of customer care? I wonder what happened to all of those? Probably got lost, too.

So now I have to wait another four days while they, I assume, attempt to find it.

And then, if I'm lucky, I'll get some vouchers to get a new one. But I actually want the old one back. Being unable to fix it is one thing. Losing it something else.

So I take just one crumb of comfort. And that is that I am at least in a position to warn others about PC World and its hopeless Tech Guys.

• ***Chris Britcher is an editor with the Archant KOS Media group.***

KOS media COMMENT

Let's work together for county's sake

WHILE competition has always been a big part of business, now is the time to set aside rivalries and work together to ensure the future of Kent's economy.

We hope with our new campaign, Keep Kent Working, local companies will get the support they need to boost business, generate jobs and put an end to the doom and gloom of the past few years.

Firms need to pull together and make sure all the ability this county has isn't wasted – Kent won't lose its talent if opportunities are available here.

Investing in young people means a new generation of thinkers, workers and doers that can get Kent back on its feet.

The downturn hit everyone hard, but why not use it as an opportunity to do things differently?

By using schemes such as apprenticeships, companies will find a new energy and enthusiasm.

Moving forward will be easier if everyone works together, shares their expertise and builds relationships between the private and public sectors.

There's no point trying to succeed on your own if everything around you is crumbling. So show your support for Kent's future by supporting the Keep Kent Working campaign – no-one can do it alone.

What a Carry On as tour girls go wild

GET some X-rated film-makers, a group of raunchy women and take them to… Deal?

Yes, the quiet seaside town has been selected for the UK tour of Girls Gone Wild and although former resident and Carry On stalwart Charles Hawtrey would surely have approved, the rest of Deal isn't happy.

The sedate town has been crying out for a bit of extra tourism, but who can blame people for being upset when it arrives topless and wearing a thong?

For some of the more elderly residents it could even be a health risk.

Oo-er, missus!

Journey times help needed

MASH plans to produce a survey of researched journey times from the centre of Maidstone to the three main hospitals women in labour will have to reach later this year for a consultant-led birth.

We will record journey times over the fastest available route from one spot in the centre of Maidstone – outside All Saints' Church – to the entrances of Medway, Ashford and Pembury hospitals at different times of day. The preferred departure times are 8am, noon, 5pm and 9pm. I would be pleased to hear from drivers who can help supply us with some of this information. We will need to know the route taken, time of departure, journey time and mileage. Information can be emailed to: dfowle2011@aol.com.

We will analyse all information and publish the results as we continue our fight to keep these services in Maidstone.

Dennis Fowle, chairman, Maidstone Action for Services in Hospital

Flying strictly for the birds

The RSPB is reiterating its concerns and those of thousands of objectors about the proposed expansion of an airport next to an area of ecological importance.

About 14,000 people wrote to the Government Office for the South East to request the plans for expanding Lydd airport be called in for a public inquiry. This shows the level of feeling that developing an airport next to an internationally important wildlife site is wrong.

In September, proposals to extend the Dungeness special protection area and designate it an international wetland site were announced by Natural England. These protection levels highlight the area's importance. It is one of the best in Europe for wildlife and has some of our most spectacular habitats. The shingle is home to unique wildlife and the expanse of coastal wetlands is of European importance for breeding and wintering waterfowl, as well as an important stopover for migrants. Any further development of Lydd threatens the ability to protect this special place, which provides space for both wildlife and the people who come here to enjoy it.

On top of this, the Government's legislative programme included an Airport Economic Regulation Bill which ruled out new runways in the South East and indicated any growth in aviation should be within the constraints of existing infrastructure. While the proposed development of Lydd airport may create some limited employment, there are opportunities to develop the local economy sustainably in ways that do not damage the environment and quality of life.

There is huge potential to promote the environment and attract more visitors and tourists. The RSPB is keen to work with others across Romney Marsh and Dungeness to make the most of this potential. The public inquiry will start on February 15. People can send their views for the attention of the inspector, KD Barton, c/o Leanne Palmer, Room 4/02 Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN, or email: leanne.palmer@pins.gsi.gov.uk.

Fay Bouri, RSPB South East

Boris Island is worth raising

I read with interest about the UK's airport options. Never mind the Nimby attitudes – the time is right to study, without bias, all the possibilities. We have seen the pathetic attempts to keep our airports open in the snow. If they can cope in countries with a much harsher climate, why do we struggle?

Is not the answer that the areas around Heathrow and Gatwick are insufficient in the 21st century? It has been said in the past that Heathrow is in the wrong place and I seriously wonder if the answer is not to reconsider London Mayor Boris Johnson's Estuary island idea.

The French did something similar when they built the Charles de Gaulle and Paris's airport was relocated (although not to an island).

Before the anti-progress brigade start huffing and puffing about the environment and wildlife, let me state there is a precedent here. Osaka in Japan has an airport, designed by British engineers, in the bay, with a hydraulic system to withstand earthquakes and typhoons. This brings me to another gripe – why can we not put in the infrastructure when anything new is built? It always follows years later. In Japan in 2005 there was an international Expo in Nagoya.

The Japanese, with typical efficiency, built a new motorway, railway system and even an airport for visitors. Why can't we? Is it not the way forward? The airport would have all the runways needed, with a high-speed rail link, motorway and infrastructure (I concede the cost would be phenomenal).

This country must consider the options: do we want to be part of Europe with the capacity to cope, or a quiet little backwater?

Heathrow is supposed to be the "world's busiest airport" and one seriously wonders for how much longer if this incompetence continues.

Tony Smith, Deal

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400
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BIRTHS

COKER
Isabelle Pagan born on 26th December 2010, weighing 5lb 14oz. Daughter to Philip and Margaret in Ramsgate. A sister to Morgan.

DIVALL
Aaron and Zoe Divall celebrate the birth of their daughter Emma Denise Divall on 30th December 2010 weighing 6lb 9oz.

DOE
Tony and Leighann Doe of Erith are delighted to announce the early arrival of their son Ethan George David Doe, born 22nd December 2010 weighing 5lb 12oz.

EUSTACE
William Waring Eustace, born 31st December 2010, a boy for Jeremy and Charlotte, first grandson for Maggie of Deal and first grandchild for Jonathan and Lynette Harmer of Egerton. All incredibly proud - New Year's Eve will never be the same again!

HAKIM
Lukman and Mita are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their lovely son Danadyaksa Britannia Hakim, born on the 23rd December 2010.

HOWARD
Claire and Lewis Howard of Pembury are delighted to announce the birth of their son Zac Lewis Howard born 2nd December 2010 weighing 7lb 12oz.

KITCHEN
David and Karen Kitchen are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Emma Samantha, weighing 7lb 11oz, on 20th December 2010 at Maidstone Hospital.

LEWIS
Imogen Ivy Lewis born on 28th December 2010, weighing 8lb 6oz. Daughter to Lance and Louise Lewis in Maidstone.

MAYER
Greg Mayer and Hannah Street would like to announce the birth of their daughter Isabel Willow Mayer, born on the 20th December 2010, weighing 7lb 7oz. A welcomed addition to the family and a beautiful sister for Joe. X X X

RALPH
Maicie born 19th December 2010, weighing 6lbs 14oz. Daughter to Andrea Moy and Maxwell Ralph in Margate.

RUDD-WALDRON
Keiron Waldren and Katie Rudd would like to announce the birth of their beautiful baby boy Taylor, born on Boxing Day at 9.52am weighing 7lb 4oz.

SMITH
Oliver born on the 19th December 2010, weighing 4lb 2oz, 9 weeks early. Ollie doing well and looking forward to going home to Mum, Dad and Charlie.

STEVENS
Katy Spoors and Michael Stevens of Hawkinge celebrate the birth of their son Lucas Michael on 17th December 2010, weighing 7lb 12oz.

STEWART-STANTON
Andrew and Suzannah Stewart-Stanton of Canterbury are delighted to announce the birth of their son Henry Robert on 30th December 2010 weighing 7lb 5oz. A welcome little brother for Isabelle Mae.

VREONY
Rachel Vreony and Barrie Bennett of Folkestone are delighted to announce the birth of Ethan Blake on Christmas Day 2010. A new baby brother for Dylan, Isabella and Joshua.

DEATHS

RUMSEY
Syvia Jean Rumsey peacefully passed away on the 31st December 2010 at Wayfarers Residential Home. Will be sadly missed by family and friends.

Frankly, a stamp of disapproval

For years now I have noticed a deteriorating quality in the franking of stamped Royal Mail post. With time at my disposal after Christmas, I decided to analyse the 87 envelopes received in December.

My impressions were sadly confirmed, albeit at a seasonably busy time for Royal Mail and with the added problem of the early winter snow.

Of the 87 envelopes, 16 (18 per cent) were not franked, but three had their stamps cancelled by pen. However, a total of 21 (24 per cent) stamps were not cancelled at all. Some 23 (26 per cent) were not imprinted with the postcode for automatic sorting.

Of the 71 which had some form of franking: 10 (14 per cent) had no day identified; 24 (34 per cent) had no month identified; six (36 per cent) had no year identified; 49 (69 per cent) had no time (or AM/PM) identified; 39 (55 per cent) had no location identified.

The worst frankings were the roundels. The best frankings were those with advertising strips. There is a tendency to re-use unfranked stamps and in economically challenged times the temptation to resist this may well decline. As a result, Royal Mail may be losing substantial revenue with its lax operation.

Unfortunately, I didn't record the received dates to be able to analyse the deliver periods and perhaps that would be unreasonable to compare it with Royal Mail's promise at this time of the year, but one second-class envelope I received on December 29 was postmarked 9.XII (which I know was posted in Oxfordshire).

How does Royal Mail reconcile its delivery promise if so many envelopes do not identify the day of cancellation, a total of 26 (32 per cent) in my survey?

Yes, one can use the date on the item inside the envelope but where the date of posting becomes legally important, absence of a clear postmark presents a problem.

We expect three Christmas cards from two relatives and one friend, all called Pat. Without a location on the franking, it's impossible to tell between two of them who sent which card.

Another second-class envelope I know was posted in the Perth area of Scotland (with a Scottish stamp) was actually franked by the Watford mail centre.

If unsorted mail from Scotland was being shipped to England because of weather problems in Scotland, was the date stamping of the envelope a true reflection of the date posted?

I wonder if my experience is typical of what other readers encountered.

NE Baldwin, Wingham

EU withdrawal will save billions

So Kent County Council wants to make cuts of £95 million. Well, that's about the amount the European Union takes from British taxpayers every two days.

Has KCC considered closing its expensive regional office in Brussels? I don't suppose so. Why doesn't KCC use the Dartford crossing toll money to replace the cuts in funding from Westminster instead of using it to wreck more countryside.

Better still, take this country out of the EU and save billions every year. Then money can be spent on us for a change, and not wasted by unelected foreigners hellbent on destroying democracy. For all the people who believe we should leave the EU, there are two national newspapers running campaigns to get us out and five political parties who think likewise.

Cameron, Clegg and Miliband do not own this country, it belongs to the people and these three and their cohorts must be made to do as we want them to do, or they should be kicked out for good.

Roger Arnold, Herne Bay

Ode to the heroes of Ashes victory

So, Ashes to Ashes, perhaps dust to dust,
But who'd hold the aces, who'd fold and go bust?
Which pack hid the jokers, who'd finally claim
That smallest of trophies, the best in the game?
As we sat and we shivered, Down Under they went,
Ambition unbridled, success their intent.
Each man on a mission, a purpose, a quest.
With pride in his heart and three lions on his chest.
Only five skips before had returned with the spoils,
Immortal their names, of legend their toils.
From Jardine to Hutton, Illingworth, Brearley, Gatts,
And now Andrew Strauss with his bowlers and bats.
Then three wins by an innings – no never before,
Not even with Grace in those great days of yore.
The green and the yellow soon flew at half mast,
As the red, white and blue was raised, quite unsurpassed.
The Army went Barmy, Aussie fans were struck dumb,
Kangaroos hopped away, platypuses left numb;
From Melbourne to Sydney, a nation in black,
Shane Warne shed a tear, with no clock to turn back.
The Man of the Series, a young chap called Cook,
His name now enshrined in the game's record book.
The runs from his bat flowed like great vintage wine,
Reminiscent of Gower, with stroke-play divine.
And on that last Friday the ultimate prize,
When Beer stood and faced Tremlett's seven-foot eyes,
His wicket was shattered and victory was sweet,
After twenty five years the job was complete.
So hats off to Strauss and to all of his men,
Stonehenge, fish and chips, and good old Big Ben.
It's good to be British and to say that we won
The Ashes, down under, by three Tests to one.

Michael Claughton, Ashford

Trip of a lifetime

I am writing to offer readers the chance of a lifetime in visiting one of the wonders of the world as part of a fundraising expedition for World Cancer Research Fund.

The charity – which funds cancer prevention research and education – is offering places on three trips in 2011 to see the ruins of Machu Picchu, high in the Peruvian Andes.

Trekkers only need a £475 registration fee to reserve a place and then raise a set amount of sponsorship before embarking on a 10-day journey to this Unesco World Heritage Site.

The hike will take participants off the beaten track to witness rural life amid the spectacular scenery of the Andes. Three trips are being organised in May, September and October.

To sign up or to find out more, visit www.wcrf-uk.org/peru.

Sian Fraser, World Cancer Research Fund

Tracing relatives

Around this time of year it's not unusual for people to think about getting in touch with long-lost family members.

But for those who are adopted, this is not so simple. Contacting birth relatives out of the blue can be exciting, but also unsettling. Most searches and reunions have a positive outcome, but sadly this is not always the case and it is strongly advised that an intermediary is used for initial contact.

This gives the person being contacted time to consider what the reunion will mean for them and their family and allow the adopted person to have support through the process.

The British Association for Adoption and Fostering has produced a free guide to assist adopted adults who are hoping to trace their birth relatives which can be accessed by visiting www.adoptionsearchreunion.org.uk.

Julia Feast, consultant, BAAF, London

Inspired learners

This year sees the 20th Adult Learners' Week. Since 1992 NIACE has celebrated the outstanding achievements of thousands of remarkable adults who have transformed their lives through learning.

Whether it's to start a new career, help their children at school or discover a hidden talent, each year we come across stories that inspire other adults to improve their own lives through learning. Nominations are open until January 28. Give someone you know the recognition they deserve for their learning achievements. More details are available by calling NIACE on 0116 204 4200 or by visiting www.alw.org.uk.

Richard Crabb, NIACE

Honeymoon's over

I am glad the honeymoon for the Coalition is over, as it is not what I voted for and is proving to be a disaster for the Conservatives.

David Cameron is taking a nosedive in the polls. He, like all Prime Ministers since Heath, will not listen to what the people want – a referendum on Europe. Many in his party who are not happy about this and I can only hope they can force this weak Prime Minister into submission.

RE Tucker, Sheerness

Shameful demise

The killing of the so-called giant fox was outrageous. When vet Keith Talbot puts down dogs and cats, does he string them up on ladders and have a child stand grinning by their lifeless bodies?

I doubt it, because he must know it is offensive in civilised society to treat the body of an animal with such vulgar irreverence. Shame on him.

Mrs GE Purser, Cheltenham



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Bodyguard courses for ex-service staff

FORMER military personnel, police officers and unlicensed doorman are among those being offered the chance to train as bodyguards.

MidKent College in Medway is the first college in the South East to gain approval from City and Guilds to operate courses in close protection, which will be delivered from the Rochester Riverside training centre.

Experienced security operatives and door supervisors, along with police officers and former Army personnel, are being encouraged to sign up and gain their Security Industry Authority (SIA) licence.

The intensive training programme will be held over 16 days and costs around £2,000.

For information call 01634 383133.



CATERED FOR: Food technology students at foodservice company 3663

Pupils given a taste of the food industry

FOOD technology students have been given a glimpse into working in the industry.

The pupils from New Line Learning Academy in Maidstone paid a visit to the foodservice company 3663 in Paddock Wood.

Federation catering manager at the academy, Thierry Leroy, said: "The group was given an in-depth guided tour of the facility and stepped inside a warehouse and chiller, met the sales and distribution teams and tasted a range of exquisite party food."

Plans are under way for repeat visits throughout the year.

Expert advice on how to improve marketing

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

BUSINESS owners are being given the chance to expand their skills during a specialist workshop designed to help promote companies.

The class is being held at Canterbury Christ Church University's Medway Campus and involves advice from industry experts and the opportunity to develop marketing plans exclusively for each business.

Tara Humphrey, business development manager at the university, said the forum will offer people the chance to improve their marketing.

She said: "Understanding how to market your business, and who to, can improve outcomes in any area of your business.

"But quite often planning in areas such as marketing, where resources can be limited, can not only be very costly, but could also harm your reputation if you get it wrong.

"So for our business forum we are offering Medway businesses the chance to join us for a hands-on workshop."

Experts Joanna Wood, lecturer for the business and management faculty at Canterbury Christ Church University, and Sharon Wilding of The Purple Edge Marketing will offer guidance to attendees who will work specifically on their own marketing plans.

Ms Humphrey said: "They will take you through key steps to crafting a creative and workable marketing plan for your business, with the aim of you leaving with a good draft and the confidence and motivation to complete the job very quickly."

The workshop takes place at Canterbury Christ Church University, Rowan Williams Court, 30 Pembroke Court, Chatham Maritime on Wednesday, January 26, starting at 7.45am and finishing at 10.30am. Tickets are £10 and payable before or on the day.

The workshop follows on from the successful first Medway business forum in October organised by the university which looked at the importance of branding to gain a competitive edge in today's market.

Spaces are limited so to secure a place email tara.humphrey@canterbury.ac.uk or call 01227 782672.

Showcase for artists of tomorrow



URBAN LANDSCAPE: Photograph by Sophia Phillips from Weald of Kent Grammar School

SECONDARY school pupils are holding an exhibition based on the theme of urban landscapes to showcase a new generation of artists.

The Artists of Tomorrow display, which is being shown in the Sidney Cooper Gallery at Canterbury Christ Church University, features photography, graphic work and paintings and will be on show until January 22.

All art work was created around the theme of urban landscapes.

Mike Butler, arts manager at Canterbury Christ Church University, said: "Artists of Tomorrow is a chance for local secondary school pupils to exhibit and showcase their work in a public art gallery.

"In past years it has proved immensely popular with pupils, their families and friends as well as the wider community.

"All the work is of a high standard, and we are delighted to be hosting the exhibition again this year."

Schools participating are Astor College for the Arts in Dover, Homewood School in Tenterden, Weald of Kent Grammar School for Girls in Tonbridge, The Norton Knatchbull School in Ashford and Harvey Grammar School for Boys in Folkestone.

The Sidney Cooper Gallery in St Peter's Street, Canterbury, is open Tuesday to Friday, 11am to 5.30pm and Saturday and Sunday, 12pm to 5.30pm.



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We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruit people who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers.

Telephone Sales Executives x2

You will play the key role in selling advertising across our market leading portfolio of newspapers, websites and mobile products.

Candidates may possess a track record in telephone sales, combining excellent communication skills, tenacity and the ability to build relationships.

Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured sales person with a structured and positive manner.

Your might also be looking to enter media as a career within sale and this would be an excellent starting point.

We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all the benefits of working for a large media organisation.

Please apply with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:
Christine Davidson, Commercial Director
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA,
Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS
Or by email christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

WANT A NEW CAREER IN THE NEW YEAR!

COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS REQUIRED FOR AN EXPANDING CARE AGENCY

FULL-TIME SHIFTS AVAILABLE IN TONBRIDGE

- Self Employed basis only
- Shift starts at 7am
- £8.25 to £10.00 per hour
- You need to be happy taking responsibility and working with older people on your own
- Must have own car and phone
- Uniform provided
- Full Training programme available

Experience preferred but not essential.
All applicants subject to Enhanced CRB Check

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www.terrablu.co.uk
An Investor in People Employer

Night Carer
required
for residential care home in Rainham
NVQ preferred
2 nights per week
Must be flexible
For more information please contact Sue on 01634 263803

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Require a
Fully Skilled Senior Painter
Call **01304 830 383**

RIVERLEA HOUSE
require
Night Senior
NVQ2 preferred
Please contact Mandie Johnstone on 01304 823935

Stargate
are recruiting for a
Deputy Nurse Manager F/T
at the Mandalay Nursing Home – Folkestone
and also a
Registered Nurse and Carers
at the Barham House Nursing Home – Nr Canterbury
Contact Sheralyn Kelly by email: barhamhouse@hotmail.co.uk

New Year, New Challenge!

Due to continued growth, **Family Homes** are seeking a

LETTINGS ADMINISTRATOR

ideally with relevant lettings experience, excellent people and administrative skills are required as is the need to be able to work on own initiative. F/T or P/T to be discussed.

Send your CV to: sunil.popat@virgin.net

Johnsons GARDEN BUILDINGS

Sales Assistants and Trainee Sales Assistants

Vacancies in Sevenoaks, Maidstone and Whitstable

Exciting direct sales opportunities with a major retailer of garden buildings in the South-East specialising in log cabins. Why not develop a new career with an expanding company in a growth sector selling this desirable and fashionable product.

All applicants would preferably have English language and basic mathematics equivalent to GCSE grade level C or higher. Candidates will require a basic knowledge of construction techniques applicable in this market sector and have the strong communication skills essential for dealing with the general public. Basic IT and administrative skills beneficial.

Some weekend work required, own transport essential. Full training provided to successful candidates. Between 30-48 hours per week.

Trainee Sales Assistants circa £15,000 per annum, full-time Sales Assistants on target earnings of £25,000 per annum according to level.

Please send CV with self-addressed envelope and detailed information on relevant experience to:
Human Resources, Johnson's Leisure Ltd, Old Thanet Way, Chestfield, Kent CT5 3JD.
Or email sales@needextraspace.co.uk.

Unfortunately telephone enquiries cannot be processed.

Theatre Royal margate

Box Office Supervisor (£17,000 - £18,500)

Theatre Royal Margate is seeking an organised and motivated candidate with excellent sales and database skills and a passion for the arts. You will ensure the efficient running of the Box Office, working with the Theatre Royal Margate team to increase and diversify the footfall into the theatre and its activities. This is a full-time position, for a fixed term of eighteen months, reporting to the General Manager in a small and busy organisation.

For an application pack please call 01843 282956, see our website www.theatreroyalmargate.com or email: admin@theatreroyalmargate.com

Deadline for applications – Fri 4th Feb, 12pm
Interviews – w/b 7th Feb 2011

Margate Theatre Royal Trust is a registered charity (279015) and aims to be an equal opportunities employer.

THE SPENCER WING

The Spencer Wing is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

Staff Nurse (Margate)

Full and part-time positions available
Closing date for applications - Monday 31st January 2011
Qualifications
Registered Nurse 1st Level
Evidence of continual professional development
ENB 998 Teaching and Assessing Course or equivalent (desirable)

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Liz Justice – 01843 234555 Ext: 62207

For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing
QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer
These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

COMMERCIAL MANAGER

An experienced Commercial Manager is required to head up our team of estimators working as a specialist subcontractor in the social housing refurbishment sector.

With contract values up to £6.5 million pa, candidates must be able to demonstrate expertise, flair and innovation in the preparation of Tenders, PQQ's and managing and assisting in Partnering Submissions for RSL's and Local Authorities as well as liaising closely with the commercial sales team and assisting with job cost feedback.

Based at the company's Head Office in Ramsgate, Kent, there will be a requirement for visits to sites and meetings with clients. Offered is a salary appropriate to your experience, together with contributory pension scheme.

Please apply in writing to Mr Ron Twyman Planning Manager, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 6PP or e-mail ron@piperwindows.co.uk

PIPER FITS FIRST TIME

To advertise in this section

✆ 01303 817040

PURCHASING AND STOCK CONTROL PERSON

We are currently looking to recruit a Purchasing and Stock Control Processor here at our busy factory in Ramsgate.

The successful candidate would need to have good communication and I.T skills, work accurately at all times, be able to meet deadlines and work well as part of a team.

Previous experience desirable but not essential.
Starting salary from around £14,000 dependant on experience.

Please apply to Ray Kemp, Piper Double Glazing Limited, 140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 6PP or e-mail ray.kemp@piperwindows.co.uk.

Closing date for applications is Friday 14 January 2011, no agencies.

We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.

PIPER FITS FIRST TIME

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

'The No.1 provider of welfare, comradeship, representation and Remembrance for the Armed Forces community'.

Maurice House, Broadstairs, Kent

We are looking to recruit to a variety of positions in Maurice House, our 47 bedded Residential and Nursing Home, based in Broadstairs, Kent. These are exciting opportunities for you to join one of the Legion's Poppy Homes, forming a major part of our welfare work to provide care for ex-Service people. We are looking to recruit for the following positions on a fixed term basis:

Registered General Nurse (RGN)

10.5 hours per week on a nightly rota basis. Salary: £12.23 per hour
You will be expected to organise and take charge of all aspects of nursing and care services to optimal standards promoting person centred care. Candidates will have RN level 1 plus evidence of updated clinical practice.

Care Assistant Positions

21 and 35 hours per week on a daily rota basis. 20 hours per week on a nightly rota basis
Flexi positions also available. Salary: £6.18 per hour
You will be expected to work as a team member in delivering high quality person centred care to our residents. Candidates will ideally have NVQ2 or willing to work towards the equivalent of this plus commitment to working within a care home environment.

Cook

20 hours per week on a rota basis. Salary: £6.70 per hour
You will be expected to provide service and provision of all meals to residents, take charge of catering services in absence of Head Chef, working with other disciplines within the home.
Candidates will have NVQ in Cooking and Basic Food Preparation plus Food Hygiene certificate.

If you would like to apply for this role please visit our website www.britishlegion.org.uk to download an application form to complete and email to mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk or collect an application form from Maurice House and post or deliver to Maurice House no later than 30th January 2011.

Please note that CVs are not accepted and we are not seeking the assistance of Recruitment Agencies to help us with this vacancy.

Please note: We comply with current government legislation relating to the Default Retirement age (DRA) of 65 years and all Royal British Legion employees are retired upon reaching their 65th birthday.

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted within two weeks of the closing date.

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Career opportunities at MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone are seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Lecturer in Beauty Therapy ***Ref: M0210***

Maternity Cover
Salary: £25,181 - £28,963 (dependent on qualifications and experience)
Medway

The College is currently looking to recruit a dynamic and enthusiastic Lecturer in the Beauty Department to deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part time learners. The applicants must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and have or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

CLOSING DATE: **12pm noon on Friday 21 January 2011**

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from **www.midkent.ac.uk**. Alternatively, please e-mail **job.applications@midkent.ac.uk**. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer

MidKent College

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

LECTURER IN FUNCTIONAL SKILLS

A Lecturer in Functional Skills is required to teach English and Maths college wide and within discrete groups.

Salary Scale: **£9,648 - £11,431**
for 18.5 hours per week, 38 weeks per year

Closing date: **26 January 2011**

Interview date: **9 February 2011**

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'.

Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Promoting Equality Preventing Discrimination

To advertise in this section

01303 817040

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Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

- ✔ Daily/weekly/termly supply opportunities
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Committed to equal opportunities

THANET COLLEGE

RAISING ASPIRATIONS - DEVELOPING SKILLS - DELIVERING QUALITY

SENIOR HR OFFICER

An exciting and challenging new position is available for the post of Senior HR Officer.

This person is required to lead the HR team in developing and delivering a comprehensive, high quality HR service for the college, which employs around 400 staff.

Providing employment advice and guidance you will lead on policies and procedures ensuring that best HR practice is in place.

Salary: **£34,817**

Closing date: **20th January 2011**

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Promoting Equality Preventing Discrimination

Westlands Academies Trust

The Westlands School

Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF

Following the success of the initiative to reduce the number of hours that a teacher has to spend covering for absent colleagues we require as soon as possible another

LESSON SUPERVISOR

This post is designed to provide supervision of classes in the absence of the subject teacher or form tutor. The job is not a teaching role but will require good classroom management skills as well as a confident personality, a good presence and excellent communication skills.

Applicants should be well educated, preferably to further education level, and have experience of giving support in the classroom, preferably as a Teaching Assistant, although other qualifications and personal/work experiences will be taken into account.

Employment will start after a one-week paid in-service training course.
There will be a six-month probationary period.

8.25am - 3.20pm with 1 hour unpaid breaks, term time only plus 1 staff training day and 25 days paid holiday a year, or as relevant to years of service in a similar post.

Salary starting at £16,793 rising to £18,471 (pro-rata)
(equal to £12,516 - depending on experience)

Recruitment packs are available from the school or online.
Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.
Closing date: Monday 24th January 2011

The Westlands School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461
Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Headteacher: J Whitcombe MA
Westlands Academies Trust Company No 7344732

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Jobs
All over Kent
Salary £7.41 to £15.37 p.h.
To apply/more information:
Census
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Data and Personalisation Controller
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@
foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Box Office Supervisor
Margate
Salary £17,000 - £18,500 PA
To apply/more information:
Theatre Royal Margate
admin@theatreroyalmargate.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Jobs
All over Kent
Salary £7.41 to £15.37 p.h. Census Jobs from £7.41 to £15.37 p.h. (depending on role/location). Full and part time roles available in your area. Be part of an exciting project and apply now at www.censusjobs.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Census
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Catering, Hospitality

Cook
Broadstairs
Salary £6.70 per hour
Maurice House, Broadstairs, Kent We are looking to recruit to a variety of positions in Maurice House, our 47 bedded Residential and Nursing Home, based in Broadstairs, Kent. These are exciting opportunities for you to join one of the Legion's Poppy Homes, forming a major part of our welfare work to provide care for ex-Service people.We are looking to recruit for the following position on a fixed term basis: Cook20 hours per week on a rota basis. Salary: £6.70 per hourYou will be expected to provide service and provision of all meals to residents, take charge of catering services in absence of Head Chef, working with other disciplines within the home. Candidates will have NVQ in Cooking and Basic Food Preparation plus Food Hygiene certificate. If you would like to apply for this role please visit our website www.britishlegion.org.uk to download anapplication form to complete and email to mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk or collect an application form from Maurice House and post or deliver to Maurice House no later than 30th January 2011.Please note that CVs are not accepted and we are not seeking the assistance of Recruitment Agenciesto help us with this vacancy.Please note: We comply with current government legislation relating to the Default Retirement age(DRA) of 65 years and all Royal British Legion employees are retiredupon reaching their 65th birthday.Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contactedwithin two weeks of the closing date.
To apply/more information:
The Royal British Legion
mauricehouse@
britishlegion.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Child Care

Team Support Workers - Childcare
Thanet
Salary £13,874
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Childcare Support Assistants
Broadstairs
Salary £10,079
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

HOUSEPARENT - CHILDCARE
Broadstairs
Salary £19,621- £22,221 per annum
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Teaching Positions
Medway
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
Education Sense
office@education-sense.com
Quoting Job Ref: Gen

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

Plant Supervisor
Ashford
Salary £neg depending on skills and experience
To apply/more information:
Interpersonnel
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
Quoting Job Ref: PSA11

Customer Service, Call Centre

Jobs
All over Kent
Salary £7.41 to £15.37 p.h. Census Jobs from £7.41 to £15.37 p.h. (depending on role/location). Full and part time roles available in your area. Be part of an exciting project and apply now at www.censusjobs.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Census
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Telephone Sales Exec
Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos4

Telephone Sales Executives x2
Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Telephone Sales ExecutiveYou will play the key role in selling advertisingacross our market leading portfolio ofnewspapers, websites and mobile products. Candidates may possess a track record intelephone sales, combining excellent communication skills, tenacity and the ability tobuild relationships. Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured salesperson with a structured and positive manner.Your might also be looking to enter media as acareer within sale and this would be anexcellent starting point. We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonusscheme, ongoing training and career development, fiveweeks' annual leave, contributory pension and lifeassurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all thebenefits of working for a large media organisation.Please apply with your CV and covering letter in thefirst instance to:Christine Davidson, Commercial Director ARCHANT KOS MEDIA, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SSOr by email: christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Domestic Trades

Aglian Home Improvements
Kent
Salary £40 OTE
To apply/more information:
Anglian Windows
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Electrician
Kent
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
GSE Group
Sue.Whittaker@gse-group.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Education, Teacher, School

New Careers in Health and Wellness
Maidstone
Salary £1000.00+ per mnth A REWARDING NEW CAREER IN HEALTH AND WELLNESS Personal Wellness Coaches required P/T hours to suit-work from home Full Training and Support available £1,000.00+ per mnth Call Estelle on 01622 664861 www.arribakent.biz
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LESSON SUPERVISOR
Sittingbourne
Salary £16,793 rising to £18,471 (pro-rata)
To apply/more information:
Westlands School (The)
headteacher@
westlands.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Team Support Workers - Childcare
Thanet
Salary £13,874
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Childcare Support Assistants
Broadstairs
Salary £10,079
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

HOUSEPARENT - CHILDCARE
Broadstairs
Salary £19,621- £22,221 per annum
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
personnel@
bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

SENIOR HR OFFICER
Broadstairs
Salary £34,817 PA
SENIOR HR OFFICERAn exciting and challenging new position is available for the post of Senior HR Officer.This person is required to lead the HR team in developing and delivering a comprehensive, high quality HR service for the college, which employs around 400 staff.Providing employment advice and guidance you will lead on policies and procedures ensuring that best HR practice is in place. Salary: £34,817Closing date: 20th JanuaryFor further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on ‘Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College,Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052.
To apply/more information:
Thanet College
personnel@thanet.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Teacher of Spanish
The Folkestone School for Girls
Salary Dependant on Experience
To apply/more information:
Folkestone School For Girls
sdunster@
folkestonegirls.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Lecturer in Beauty Therapy
Medway
Salary £25,181 - £28,963
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: M0210

LECTURER IN FUNCTIONAL SKILLS
Broadstairs
Salary £9,648 - £11,431
LECTURER IN FUNCTIONAL SKILLS A Lecturer in Functional Skills is required to teach English and Maths College wide and within discrete groups. Salary Scale: £9,648 - £11,431 for 18.5 hours per week, 38 weeks per year Closing date: 26 January 2011Interview date: 9 February 2011 For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on ‘Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR Office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052 Promoting Equality Preventing Discrimination
To apply/more information:
Thanet College
personnel@thanet.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Communicator
The Folkestone School for Girls
Salary Kent Pay Scheme Band 6 (£18,471-£20,262)
To apply/more information:
Folkestone School For Girls
sdunster@
folkestonegirls.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KoS

Teaching Positions
Medway
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
Education Sense
office@education-sense.com
Quoting Job Ref: Gen

PE TEACHER
Medway
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
Education Sense
office@education-sense.com
Quoting Job Ref: PE

HOME ECONOMICS TEACHER
Medway
Salary TBC
To apply/more information:
Education Sense
office@education-sense.com
Quoting Job Ref: HECO

CDT TEACHER
Medway
Salary
To apply/more information:
Education Sense
office@education-sense.com
Quoting Job Ref: CDT

MUSIC TEACHER
Medway
Salary
To apply/more information:
Education Sense
office@education-sense.com
Quoting Job Ref: MUS

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Aglian Home Improvements
Kent
Salary £40 OTE
To apply/more information:
Anglian Windows
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Electrically Based Engineer
Sittingbourne
Salary £35,000
Electrically Based Engineer Salary - £35,000 Shift pattern - 18.00-06.00 Working hours - Week 1 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday Week 2 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday Definite requirements: Electrically qualified with extensive additional mechanical ability/ experience. Experience working on high speed complex packaging machinery. Excellent fault finding ability. Be able to prioritise workload according to the current demands of the business. Be flexible & accommodating in your work ethics to ensure breakdowns are completed before breaks are taken, (within reasonable limits). Wherever possible the business will reciprocate this flexibility. Be punctual & reliable. Be proactive & positive. A self motivated individual with a strong 'can do' attitude Desirable attributes Experience working on citrus packaging machinery, Preference will be given to individuals who can demonstrate experience on one or more of the following : Sorma P14 weighers Sorma BRT netting machines Giro GB series netting machines PLC knowledge preferably siemens S200 range Qualifications Required: C&G 2 or higher in electrical discipline Mechanical qualification (desirable) and / or extensive mechanical experience. 17th edition regulations. Job description: To fault find & maintain to a high standard high speed weighing, packaging & ancillary machinery predominately for netting of citrus. Maintenance of the machinery will involve pre arranged total strip & rebuild of the netting machines on a periodic basis to ensure they work to their maximum designed performance levels when reinstated back on the lines. Some installation / project work will be undertaken from time to time. Extensive training will be given to individuals who have the necessary attributes but have little or no experience working on the machinery indicated above.
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@
thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Electrician
Kent
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
GSE Group
Sue.Whittaker@gse-group.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Health & Beauty

Lecturer in Beauty Therapy
Medway
Salary £25,181 - £28,963
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: M0210

HR, Recruitment

SENIOR HR OFFICER
Broadstairs
Salary £34,817 PA
To apply/more information:
Thanet College
personnel@thanet.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

PURCHASING AND STOCK CONTROL PERSON
Ramsgate
Salary £14,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
piper@piperwindows.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Refuse Loader
Rochester
Salary £5.93ph
This Vacancy is being advertised on behalf of The Best Connection who are operating as an employment business. Previous experience is not essential. Own transport required to due to location. This work involves manual handling up to 25kg. Duties include assisting crews on daily routes, collection and loading of residential and commercial waste bins and any other tasks as required. Please apply by either email or phone: Phone: 01622 664999Email: maidstone.admin@thebestconnection.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@
thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Electrician
Kent
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
GSE Group
Sue.Whittaker@gse-group.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Inkjet Machine operators
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@
foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Hand workers
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@
foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Enclosing Machine operators
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@
oxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Production Manager (Mailing)
Tunbridge wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@
foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Data and Personalisation Controller
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@
foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

Jobs
All over Kent
Salary £7.41 to £15.37 p.h. Census Jobs from £7.41 to £15.37 p.h. (depending on role/location). Full and part time roles available in your area. Be part of an exciting project and apply now at www.censusjobs.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Census
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Legal

Jobs
All over Kent
Salary £7.41 to £15.37 p.h. Census Jobs from £7.41 to £15.37 p.h. (depending on role/location). Full and part time roles available in your area. Be part of an exciting project and apply now at www.censusjobs.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Census
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

New Careers in Health and Wellness
Maidstone
Salary £1000.00+ per mnth
To apply/more information:
Arriba
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Trainee Sales Assistants
Sevenoaks
Salary Circa £15,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Assistants
Maidstone
Salary £25,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Trainee Sales Assistants
Maidstone
Salary circa £15,000 per annum
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Assistants
Whitstable
Salary £25,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Trainee Sales Assistants
Whitstable
Salary circa £15,000 per annum
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Assistants
Sevenoaks
Salary £25,000 per annum
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Recreation Assistant
Larkfield
Salary c£14,500
Suit candidates with ambition to progress in the Leisure Industry. Working on a shift basis to include evenings and weekends, customer focused with good communication skills and knowledge/experience in a particular sport within the leisure/service industry. NPLQ or equivalent recognised lifeguard qualification or previous work experience in a sporting environment. This post is subject to a satisfactory CRB check. Close Date 17 January 2011.
To apply/more information:
Interpersonnel
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 1716

Box Office Supervisor
Margate
Salary £17,000 - £18,500 PA
To apply/more information:
Theatre Royal Margate
admin@
theatreroyalmargate.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Management, Senior Positions

Business Manager
Ashford
Salary OTE:£45,000
To apply/more information:
Invicta Motors (Ashford)
parm.randhawa@
summitautogroup.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

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JobsforKent.co.uk
To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Deputy Nurse Manager
Folkestone
Salary Negotiable
Stargate are recruiting fora Deputy Nurse Manager F/Tat the Mandalay Nursing Home - Folkestoneand also aRegistered Nurse and Carersat the Barham House Nursing Home - Nr Canterbury Contact Sheralyn Kelly - email: barhamhouse@hotmail.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Barham House
barhamhouse@hotmail.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

SENIOR HR OFFICER
Broadstairs
Salary £34,817 PA
To apply/more information:
Thanet College
personnel@thanet.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

COMMERCIAL MANAGER
Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
piper@piperwindows.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Production Manager (Mailing)
Tunbridge wells
Salary Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@
foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Assistant Manager
Folkestone
Salary Negotiable
Assistant Manager Required For Residential Care Home in FolkestoneWe are looking to recruit an enthusiasticand committed person.Must have minimum NVQ Level 3 qualification,and experience in caring for the elderly isessential. Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager)on 01303 254019 for further details or email CV tocumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.ukSubject to satisfactory CRB Check.
To apply/more information:
Cumbria House Residential Home
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Marketing, Advertising

Media Sales Executives Field Based x2
Medway & North Kent & West Kent
Salary Negotiable
Media Sales Executives Field Based x2Full Time permanent Medway North KentFull Time permanent West Kent KOS Media look for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market leading portfolio including newspapers, magazinesand digital sales. We believe and pride ourselves in good customer service, professional marketing solutions and excellent business relationships. We provide innovative ideas that will in return give our clients real value and response. Looking after and growing an existing customer base along with finding new business will form the basis of the job role. You will need to be a self-motivated individual with sales experience, good communicator, tenacious and hard working to succeed in this environment. Media experience is not essential as full training will be given. We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonus scheme, ongoing training and career development, five weeks' annual leave, contributory pension and life assurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all thebenefits of working for a large media organisation.Please apply in writing with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:Ynez Coton, Commercial Director,ARCHANT KOS MEDIAApple Barn, Hythe Rd, Smeeth, Ashford Kent. TN25 6SSOr email ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos3

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Telephone Sales Executives
Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos4

Media Sales Executives
Ashford
Salary negotiable
Media Sales ExecutivesWe have an opportunity for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market-leading portfolio of newspapers and magazines. We're not looking for people to just take orders; we're looking for people who can provide first class solutions for our customers. We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruitpeople who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers. We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonusscheme, ongoing training and career development, fiveweeks' annual leave, contributory pension and lifeassurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all thebenefits of working for a large media organisation.Please apply with your CV and covering letter in thefirst instance to: Christine Davidson, Commercial DirectorARCHANT KOS MEDIA,Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SSOr by email: christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos01

Telephone Sales Executives x2
Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Motor Trade, Driver

Business Manager
Ashford
Salary OTE:£45,000
To apply/more information:
Invicta Motors (Ashford)
parm.randhawa@summitautogroup.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Massage Therapist
Canterbury
Salary 9-18 k per annum + bonuses
To apply/more information:
Canterbury Health Practice
monique@canterburyhealthpractice.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: masthe 001

Registered General Nurse
Broadstairs
Salary £12.23 per hour
Maurice House, Broadstairs, KentWe are looking to recruit to a variety of positions in Maurice House, our 47 bedded Residential and Nursing Home, based in Broadstairs, Kent.These are exciting opportunities for you to join one of the Legion's Poppy Homes, forming a major part of our welfare work to provide care for ex-Service people.We are looking to recruit for the following position on a fixed term basis: Registered General Nurse (RGN)10.5 hours per week on a nightly rota basis. Salary: £12.23 per hourYou will be expected to organise and take charge of all aspects of nursing and care services to optimal standardspromoting person centred care. Candidates will have RN level 1 plus evidence of updated clinical practice. If you would like to apply for this role please visit our website www.britishlegion.org.uk to download anapplication form to complete and email to mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk or collect an application form from Maurice House and post or deliver to Maurice House no later than 30th January 2011.Please note that CVs are not accepted and we are not seeking the assistance of Recruitment Agenciesto help us with this vacancy. Please note: We comply with current government legislation relating to the Default Retirement age(DRA) of 65 years and all Royal British Legion employees are retired upon reaching their 65th birthday.Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted within two weeks of the closing date.
To apply/more information:
The Royal British Legion
mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Care Assistant Positions
Broadstairs
Salary £6.18 per hour
Maurice House, Broadstairs, KentWe are looking to recruit to a variety of positions in Maurice House, our 47 bedded Residential and Nursing Home, based in Broadstairs, Kent.These are exciting opportunities for you to join one of the Legion's Poppy Homes, forming a major part of our welfare work to provide care for ex-Service people.We are looking to recruit for the following positions on a fixed term basis: Care Assistant Positions21 and 35 hours per week on a daily rota basis. 20 hours per week on a nightly rota basis Flexi positions also available. Salary: £6.18 per hour You will be expected to work as a team member in delivering high quality person centred care to our residents.Candidates will ideally have NVQ2 or willing to work towards the equivalent of this plus commitment to workingwithin a care home environment. If you would like to apply for this role please visit our website www.britishlegion.org.uk to download anapplication form to complete and email to mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk or collect an application form from Maurice House and post or deliver to Maurice House no later than 30th January 2011.Please note that CVs are not accepted and we are not seeking the assistance of Recruitment Agenciesto help us with this vacancy.Please note: We comply with current government legislation relating to the Default Retirement age(DRA) of 65 years and all Royal British Legion employees are retired upon reaching their 65th birthday.Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted within two weeks of the closing date.
To apply/more information:
The Royal British Legion
mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Cook
Broadstairs
Salary £6.70 per hour
Maurice House, Broadstairs, KentWe are looking to recruit to a variety of positions in Maurice House, our 47 bedded Residential and Nursing Home, based in Broadstairs, Kent.These are exciting opportunities for you to join one of the Legion's Poppy Homes, forming a major part of our welfare work to provide care for ex-Service people.We are looking to recruit for the following position on a fixed term basis: Cook20 hours per week on a rota basis. Salary: £6.70 per hourYou will be expected to provide service and provision of all meals to residents, take charge of catering services in absence of Head Chef, working with other disciplines within the home. Candidates will have NVQ in Cooking and Basic Food Preparation plus Food Hygiene certificate. If you would like to apply for this role please visit our website www.britishlegion.org.uk to download anapplication form to complete and email to mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk or collect an application form from Maurice House and post or deliver to Maurice House no later than 30th January 2011.Please note that CVs are not accepted and we are not seeking the assistance of Recruitment Agenciesto help us with this vacancy.Please note: We comply with current government legislation relating to the Default Retirement age(DRA) of 65 years and all Royal British Legion employees are retiredupon reaching their 65th birthday.Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contactedwithin two weeks of the closing date.
To apply/more information:
The Royal British Legion
mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

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JobsforKent.co.uk
To advertise in this section or online
✆ **01303 817040**

Registered Nurse
Canterbury
Salary Negotiable
Stargate are recruiting fora Deputy Nurse Manager F/Tat the Mandalay Nursing Home - Folkestoneand also aRegistered Nurse and Carersat the Barham House Nursing Home - Nr Canterbury Contact Sheralyn Kelly - email: barhamhouse@hotmail.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Barham House
barhamhouse@hotmail.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Deputy Nurse Manager
Folkestone
Salary Negotiable
Stargate are recruiting fora Deputy Nurse Manager F/Tat the Mandalay Nursing Home - Folkestoneand also aRegistered Nurse and Carersat the Barham House Nursing Home - Nr Canterbury Contact Sheralyn Kelly - email: barhamhouse@hotmail.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Barham House
barhamhouse@hotmail.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS
Tonbridge
Salary £8.25 to £10.00 per hour
To apply/more information:
TerraBlu Ltd
emma.foord@terrablu.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

RGN (Day and Night shifts)
Gillingham
Salary Negotiable
Prestigious Naval Care Home in GillinghamRequires:RGN's (Day and Night shifts) Applicants should be able to provide a high standard of nursing care and work as part of a team. For more information and application form contact: PEMBROKE HOUSE 11 Oxford Road Gillingham Kent ME7 4BS Tel: 01634 852431.
To apply/more information:
Royal Naval Benevolent Trust
jotrembeth@pembrokehouse-rnbt.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Flexi Day Care Assistants
Folkestone
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Cumbria House Residential Home
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Assistant Manager
Folkestone
Salary Negotiable
Assistant Manager Required For Residential Care Home in Folkestone We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person.Must have minimum NVQ Level 3 qualification, and experience in caring for the elderly is essential. Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 for further details or email CV tocumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk Subject to satisfactory CRB Check
To apply/more information:
Cumbria House Residential Home
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Weekend Domestic Assistant
Faversham
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Carnalea Residential Home
eldercare@carnalea.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Other

EARN AN INCREASING MONTHLY INCOME...
Kent
Salary TBC
Earn an increasing monthly income... Generous Payments Free BMW Mini Luxury Holidays Company Porsche 1,000s of people can earn a second income in their spare time, in partnership with the Utility Warehouse. YOU COULD TOO! Make money by saving people money No experience necessary Fantastic benefits! Find out more! Call 0800 781 2433 Get paid every month, for work you do once! www.minibills.co.uk Home phone, Mobile, Internet, Gas, Electricity ALL IN ONE SIMPLE BILL *Best Buy www.which.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Utility Warehouse
alanbarnett@telecomplus.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS

Print, Packaging, Distribution

Inkjet Machine operators
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Hand workers
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Enclosing Machine operators
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Production Manager (Mailing)
Tunbridge wells
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Data and Personalisation Controller
Tunbridge Wells
Salary Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Fox Print Services
Rebecca.oldroyd@foxprintservices.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Public Sector, Social Services

Registered General Nurse
Broadstairs
Salary £12.23 per hour
To apply/more information:
The Royal British Legion
mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Care Assistant Positions
Broadstairs
Salary £6.18 per hour
To apply/more information:
The Royal British Legion
mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Cook
Broadstairs
Salary £6.70 per hour
To apply/more information:
The Royal British Legion
mauricehouse@britishlegion.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Registered Nurse
Canterbury
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Barham House
barhamhouse@hotmail.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

COMMUNITY SUPPORT WORKERS
Tonbridge
Salary £8.25 to £10.00 per hour
To apply/more information:
TerraBlu Ltd
emma.foord@terrablu.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Recreation Assistant
Larkfield
Salary c£14,500
To apply/more information:
Interpersonnel
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 1716

Housing Needs Officer
West Malling
Salary c£22,000
One Year Fixed Term Contract. Providing comprehensive housing options advice and undertaking related duties aimed at preventing and resolving homelessness. Applicants should have a good level of education and recent experience of working in a housing advice or homeless prevention role with a local authority or registered social landlord. You will require knowledge and understanding of current housing issues, legislation, guidance and good practice and have good IT competency. The ability to undertake travel around the borough is essential as is the flexibility to work out of office hours. Closing date 20th January 2011.
To apply/more information:
Interpersonnel
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 1717

RG (Day and Night shifts)
Gillingham
Salary Negotiable
Prestigious Naval Care Home in GillinghamRequires:RGN's (Day and Night shifts) Applicants should be able to provide a high standard of nursing care and work as part of a team. For more information and application form contact: PEMBROKE HOUSE11 Oxford RoadGillinghamKent ME7 4BS Tel: 01634 852431.
To apply/more information:
Royal Naval Benevolent Trust
jotrembeth@pembrokehouse-rnbt.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

LESSON SUPERVISOR
Sittingbourne
Salary £16,793 rising to £18,471 (pro-rata)
To apply/more information:
Westlands School (The)
headteacher@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Refuse Loader
Rochester
Salary £5.93ph
This Vacancy is being advertised on behalf of The Best Connection who are operating as an employment business. Previous experience is not essential. Own transport required to due to location. This work involves manual handling up to 25kg. Duties include assisting crews on daily routes, collection and loading of residential and commercial waste bins and any other tasks as required. Please apply by either email or phone: Phone: 01622 664999 Email: maidstone.admin@thebestconnection.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Best Connection Agency (The)
maidstone@thebestconnection.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref:

Lecturer in Beauty Therapy
Medway
Salary £25,181 - £28,963
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: M0210

LECTURER IN FUNCTIONAL SKILLS
Broadstairs
Salary £9,648 - £11,431
To apply/more information:
Thanet College
personnel@thanet.ac.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Flexi Day Care Assistants
Folkestone
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Cumbria House Residential Home
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Assistant Manager
Folkestone
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Cumbria House Residential Home
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Weekend Domestic Assistant
Faversham
Salary Negotiable
Weekend Domestic Assistant required to work in a residential home inFaversham for the elderly.9 - 2 pm.For further details please call 01795 532629 between 10 - 4 pm.
To apply/more information:
Carnalea Residential Home
eldercare@carnalea.com
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

EARN AN INCREASING MONTHLY INCOME...
Kent
To apply/more information:
Utility Warehouse
alanbarnett@telecomplus.org.uk
Quoting Job Ref: KOS

Business Manager
Ashford
Salary OTE: £45,000
To apply/more information:
Invicta Motors (Ashford)
parm.randhawa@summitautogroup.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

PURCHASING AND STOCK CONTROL PERSON
Ramsgate
Salary £14,000 PA
PURCHASING AND STOCK CONTROL PERSONWe are currently looking to recruit a Purchasing and Stock Control Processor here at our busy factory in Ramsgate. The successful candidate would need to have good communication and I.T skills, work accurately at all times, be able to meet deadlines and work well as part of a team. Previous experience desirable but not essential.Starting salary from around £14,000 dependant on experience.Please apply to Ray Kemp, Piper Double Glazing Limited,140 Newington Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 6PPor e-mail ray.kemp@piperwindows.co.uk.Closing date for applications isFriday 14 January 2011, no agencies.We are an Equal Opportunities Employer.
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
piper@piperwindows.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Aglian Home Improvements
Kent
Salary £40 OTE
To apply/more information:
Anglian Windows
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Trainee Sales Assistants
Sevenoaks
Salary Circa £15,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Assistants
Maidstone
Salary £25,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Trainee Sales Assistants
Maidstone
Salary circa £15,000 per annum
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Assistants
Whitstable
Salary £25,000 PA
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Trainee Sales Assistants
Whitstable
Salary circa £15,000 per annum
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Sales Assistants
Sevenoaks
Salary £25,000 per annum
To apply/more information:
Johnsons Leisure Ltd
sales@needextraspace.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

COMMERCIAL MANAGER
Ramsgate
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Piper Windows
piper@piperwindows.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Media Sales Executives Field Based x2
Medway & North Kent & West Kent
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos3

Telephone Sales Executives
Ashford
Salary Negotiable
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos4

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Box Office Supervisor
Margate
Salary £17,000 - £18,500 PA
To apply/more information:
Theatre Royal Margate
admin@theatreroyalmargate.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Media Sales Executives
Ashford
Salary negotiable
Media Sales Executives We have an opportunity for highly motivated people to create and sell multi-media solutions in our market-leading portfolio of newspapers and magazines. We're not looking for people to just take orders; we're looking for people who can provide first class solutions for our customers. We believe good customer service is at the heart of our success and we want to recruitpeople who can develop excellent business relationships and present effective and innovative ideas that will provide real value and response for our customers. We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonusscheme, ongoing training and career development, fiveweeks' annual leave, contributory pension and lifeassurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all thebenefits of working for a large media organisation.Please apply with your CV and covering letter in thefirst instance to: Christine Davidson, Commercial Director ARCHANT KOS MEDIA, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS Or by email: christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos01

Telephone Sales Executives x2
Ashford
Salary Negotiable
Telephone Sales Executive You will play the key role in selling advertisingacross our market leading portfolio ofnewspapers, websites and mobile products. Candidates may possess a track record intelephone sales, combining excellent communication skills, tenacity and the ability to build relationships. Ultimately, we need an articulate and assured salesperson with a structured and positive manner. Your might also be looking to enter media as acareer within sale and this would be anexcellent starting point. We offer an excellent basic salary plus generous bonusscheme, ongoing training and career development, fiveweeks' annual leave, contributory pension and lifeassurance scheme (after qualifying period) and all thebenefits of working for a large media organisation. Please apply with your CV and covering letter in thefirst instance to:Christine Davidson, Commercial Director ARCHANT KOS MEDIA, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS Or by email: christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk
To apply/more information:
ARCHANT } KOS MEDIA
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Scientific & Pharmaceutical, Research

Lab Technician
Mid Kent
Salary c£7.50 per hour
We are currently looking for a suitable candidate to undertake a temporary contract based in Mid Kent for a minimum of 3 months. The main responsibility is testing water samples within a laboratory environment for which training will be given. Knowledge and experience of working within a laboratory is essential. This work will be highly repetitive requiring constant high levels of concentration and focus. Hours of work 8.30 - 4.30 Monday to Friday. Please note interviews are to be held at our offices in Maidstone ASAP. When submitting your CV please state your hourly rate expectation for this role.
To apply/more information:
Interpersonnel
jfk@interpersonnel.ltd.uk
Quoting Job Ref: 1718

Highways – Borough of Gravesham

VARIOUS ROADS, GRAVESEND - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Various Roads, Gravesend as noted in schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 17th January 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 18 months. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Christian Fields Avenue and Warrior Avenue.

Schedule 1

Road Name: Palmer Avenue
Extent: Between its junctions with Beckett Mews to outside 91 Palmer Avenue

Road Name: Hawkins Avenue
Extent: Between its junctions with Ferguson Avenue to Palmer Avenue

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate continued redevelopment of Christian Fields Estate.

Highways – District of Sevenoaks

BUTTON STREET, SWANLEY - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Button Street, Swanley between its junctions with A20 Gorse Hill (Main Road) and Faminham Hill Road.

The Order will become effective on 31st January 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 7 non-consecutive days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: A20 London Road, B2173 London Road, B2173 High Street, B258 Swanley Lane, Highlands Hill, Swanley Village Road and Button Street.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate replacement of bridge bearings.

CHURCH ROAD, HARTLEY - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Church Road, Hartley between Grange Road and Hartley Hill.

The Order will become effective on 31st January 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 14 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Ash Road and St Johns Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate new gullies, manhole, and connection to soak away and confined space clean of existing soak away.

Highways – District of Swale

CLOCK HOUSE LEVEL CROSSING, BOUGHTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is given that because of a level crossing inspection and track maintenance, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Clock House Level Crossing, Boughton, on or after
30 January 2011 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

Clockhouse Lane, Boughton will be closed at the Level Crossing. The alternative route is via Clockhouse Lane, Selling Road and Brenley Lane.

The planned closure times are from 1.50 am on 30 January 2011 until 4.10 am on 31 January 2011.

This Order remains in force for up to 18 months and can be re-implemented if required for works of a similar nature.

Highways – Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

(ISMAY ROAD, IGHTHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)TEMPORARY ORDER 2010 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Ismay Road Ightham from the junction of Sandy Lane, Ismay Road and the junction of Teebs Way, on or after Tuesday 18th January 2011 for a period of up to 1 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is via Common Road and Sandy Lane and vice versa.

BT apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to complete tree cutting and overhead cabling works.. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Mandy Richardson on 08700500792

(OLD HADLOW ROAD, TONBRIDGE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Old Hadlow Road from outside number 37 to the junction of Stair Road on or after Monday 17th January 2011 for a period of up to 4 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Old Hadlow Road, Cornwallis Avenue, Old Hadlow Road.

Southern Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to up size an existing sewer for a new development. Should you require any further information for these works, the contact is Alan Skipper of Clancy Docwra on 01273 663650.

(PRIORY ROAD, TONBRIDGE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Priory Road at the railway bridge on or after Sunday 6th February 2011 for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Priory Road, B2260 Railway Approach, A26 Pembury Road, Goldsmid Road, Priory Road.

Network Rail apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to provide a safety and structural examination of the railway bridge. Should you require any further information for these works, the contact is Emma Osborne of Centurion Traffic Management on 01634 717044.

KATHERINE KERSWELL, Group Managing Director, Kent County Council, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 2XQ

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

10/03948/LBC **Dingleden House Dingleden, Benenden**
- Listed Building Consent - Insertion of three conservation rooflights into rear catslide roof slope to light kitchen (LB)

10/04123/HOUSE **Crockhurst Farm Oast Crockhurst Street, Capel**
- Rebuild and extension of existing stowage (LB)

10/04111/FUL **Dental Practice Golding House, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
- New and replacement fencing and gates (CA) (LB)

10/04136/LBC **Whites Bedgebury Road, Goudhurst**
- Listed building consent - Extension of the existing basement area beneath the existing dining room (LB)

10/03905/FUL **Marlborough House School High Street, Hawkhurst**
- Single-storey extension to the existing Pre-Prep School to provide Assembly Hall, staff room and WC facilities with SEN classroom and ICT workspace within roof void (LB) (PROW)

10/04124/FUL **School House Farm School House Lane, Horsmonden**
- Demolish modern extensions to rear and porch to side; single-storey extension for new kitchen and rebuild porch; reinstate front door; conversion of existing barn to 2-bed annexe; landscape area between house and barn; two-bay garage to draw driveway away from house (LB)

10/04125/LBC **School House Farm School House Lane, Horsmonden**
- Listed Building Consent - Demolish modern extensions to rear and porch to side; single-storey extension for new kitchen and rebuild porch; reinstate front door; conversion of existing barn to 2-bed annexe; two-bay garage to draw driveway away from house (LB)

10/04107/LBC **Salon 21 Forge House, Lamberhurst**
- Listed building consent - Flood protection measures (LB)

10/04109/LBC **Forge House The Broadway, Lamberhurst**
- Listed building consent - flood protection measures (LB)

10/04117/LBC **1 Hickmots Cottages High Street, Lamberhurst**
- Listed Building Consent - Flood protection measures (LB)

10/04118/LBC **Bridge House The Broadway, Lamberhurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Flood protection measures (LB)

10/04120/LBC **3 Coggers Cottages The Broadway, Lamberhurst**
- Listed building consent - Flood protection measures (LB)

10/04147/LBC **Archway Cottage Bayham Abbey, Lamberhurst**
- Listed building consent - internal alterations (amended scheme to approved TW/09/01949) to raise sunken floor, re-locate stable rails, incorporate separating wall and alter existing fireplace to accommodate woodburner (LB)

10/04106/FUL **2A Park Street Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Conversion of workshop into two self contained ground floor flats, consisting of 1 x 1-bedroom flat and 1 x 2-bedroom flat (CA)

10/04113/TELN5 **Outside Beechwood Sacred Heart School, Park**
- Telecommunication notification - installation of new green coloured replacement cabinet shell (CA)

10/04138/FUL **5 Calverley Park Gardens Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Extension of Time - Extension of existing building to create eight additional apartments and alterations to front elevation (TW/08/00727/FUL refers) (CA)

10/04139/LBC **2 Calverley Park Crescent Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Listed Building Consent: Reversible infill of internal doorway between kitchen and hallway (LB)

10/04142/LBC **2 Calverley Park Crescent Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
- Listed Building Consent: To retain replacement rooflight and demountable partition within second floor bathroom already carried out (LB)

10/04122/HOUSE **1 Camden Avenue Pembury, Pembury**
- Demolish existing single storey side extension and replace with two storey side extension with self contained disabled area to ground floor (CA)

10/04056/HOUSE **1 Stone Cottages Groombridge Hill, Speldhurst**
- Demolition of side extension and construction of a two storey side extension plus internal alterations (LB)

10/04070/LBC **1 Stone Cottages Groombridge Hill, Speldhurst**
- Listed Building Consent: Demolition of side extension and construction of a two storey side extension plus internal alterations (LB)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 15 January 2011

LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice of application for grant/variation of a Premises license. Notice is hereby given that Glyn and Kelly Laybourne have applied to Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council for the grant/variation of a premises license in respect of premises known as Rose & Crown, Bran Bridges Road, East Peckham, TN12 5HD.

The Application seeks the license in respect of the following; the sale of alcohol, the provision of regulated entertainment, the provision of late night refreshment.

With details of the register of record of the application can be viewed at the Tonbridge & Malling Council offices (Licensing Dept) Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling during normal offices hours. Any representations from interested parties or responsible authorities must be made in writing to the Council by 8th February 2011.

It is an offence, knowingly or recklessly, to make a false statement in connection with an application, and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary of conviction is a fine not exceeding £5,000.

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Women Seeking

IF YOU'RE LOOKING to meet or chat to someone look no further TXT **CHAT883** to **65**25 for chat with pictures, fun and safe service.

BEAUTIFUL slim, black female, HIV positive, good qualities, seeks genuine, kind, white male, 30-47 to share life with. Cambridge/London/Tunbridge Well. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356493**

LONELY female, petite, attractive, size 8-10, blue eyes, long hair, likes historic places, holidays, meals out, seeks honest, genuine male for friendship initially. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356359**

HAPPY fun loving, attractive, intelligent, educated, slim, curvy female, late 40's, WLTM caring, sincere man interested in theatre, reading, arts, nature and walks for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356613**

ADORABLE black female, 37, slim, affable, enjoys music, reading, theatre, laughter, nature, seeks genuine gent, 37-49 who is caring, N/S and lives near London. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333815**

CONFIDENT young female who knows what she wants out of life, looking for open minded, outgoing guy for adult conversations/meets. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356153**

BEV petite and trendy with a nice figure, solvent, animal friendly and looking for soul mate up for lots of fun. Age/looks unimportant. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356149**

I might be 47 but am certainly not over the hill yet! Attractive and looking for a good reason to get back in shape. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356147**

LATE 40's female, likes most things, animals, walks, cinema, seeks male 45-59 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348941**

29YR old female, 5ft 3ins, size 12, long brown hair, seeks childless male, 29-40. Margate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383026**

ATTRACTIVE black lady, 5ft 6ins, black hair, slim, kissable lips, likes walks, horse riding, go karts, seeks professional white male, 35-45, athletic, 5ft 11ins-6ft. London. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353897**

BLACK female, likes meals out, theatre, seeks solvent white male, 30-47 for genuine relationship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382910**

41YR old divorced female, likes astrology, writing, cats, seeks fun loving guy with GSOH. Rochester **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381528**

FIT lady, 65, thinks she's 40, N/S, loves life, seeks genuine gent, 60-70 N/S for happy loving, exciting times. Gravesend. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353111**

VICKY attractive, kind, down to earth, black British, likes travel, writing, reading, cooking, socialising, seeks generous, good man who is family orientated. Essex. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353033**

56YR old female, 5ft 6ins, GSOH, N/S, likes socialising, cards, dancing, racket ball, seeks male, 50-65. Maidstone. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 353773**

YOUNG at heart 50's tall, slim, blue eyed blonde, honest, caring, seeks tall, strong, confident, young at heart male, 50-60. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350337**

41YR old lady, young at heart, blue eyes, long dark hair, seeks fun loving guy with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346537**

YOUNG black female, likes meals out, theatre, seeks solvent white male 30-47 for genuine relationship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382706**

SEALED with a kiss. 37yr old single mum, blonde hair, blue eyes, curvy, likes sunshine, travel, looking for Knight in shining armour, to make me laugh and spoil me. Folkestone. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355543**

PRETTY black lady, 39, 36G bust, 5ft 3ins, likes reading, cinema, meals out, nature, travel, theatre, seeks tall, slim, professional white male, 35-50 who is honest, genuine, loving, funny and spiritual. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355311**

CRYSTAL 5ft 6ins, long dark hair, hazel eyes, olive skin, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383374**

SUZANNE 35, beautiful blonde, seeks discreet male for chats and a relaxing glass of wine anytime. ACA, status unimportant. City area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342527**

DEBBIE mid 50's, attractive, likes dancing, music, cinema, theatre, seeks male for companionship. Maidstone. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351419**

MATCH for a Leo. Tall blonde, early 60's, varied interests, likes music, travel, seeks N/S, caring male with GSOH. Ramsgate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 352627**

PATRICIA outgoing, confident, feminine, warm, friendly, smart, good company, attractive, seeks similar male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347215**

BEAUTIFUL slim, babe, 22, seeks older, generous guy 65 plus who knows how to pamper. London. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348545**

ATTRACTIVE outgoing 64yr old lady, seeks genuine, retired, solvent, professional male for friendship. Kent. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351929**

42YR old female, likes music, dancing, writing, astrology, cats, seeks male with GSOH and similar age. Medway. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351577**

SINGLE mum, 39, likes most things, seeks male with GSOH for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349999**

ADORABLE beauty, curvy, caring, down to earth, trained lawyer, seeks good man for friendship, companionship, maybe more. London. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351337**

COME live with me. Medic, petite, stunning, long hair, seeks very rich, tactile, generous gent. I will care for you forever. Essex. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351333**

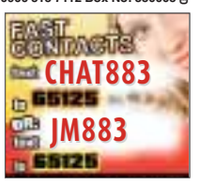
PENNY slim, sporty, attractive, excellent company, enjoys the outdoors, cycling, walks, sailing, theatre, travel, seeks intelligent, like-minded gent for friendship, maybe more. London. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351273**

ANNA 62, seeks guy, 59-65 with an interest in the simple things in life for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346707**

62YR old female, 5ft 4ins, blonde hair, green eyes, medium build, likes walks, keep fit, dancing, gardening, cooking, seeks male, 59-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346705**

PETITE female, slim, attractive, blonde hair, green eyes, GSOH, romantic, likes sports, nights out, meals, seeks honest, genuine, N/S male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334613**

JACKIE homely, 52, seeks genuine, homely male, 50-65 for caring, sharing and spoiling. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350005**



LADY seeks N/S, clean shaven male to appreciate artistic, romantic, feisty, attractive, slimmish, curvy lady of 69 who has not yet joined the wrinklies. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349757**

WORLD traveller, fit, young minded female, enjoys life, seeks special interesting male, 60's for genuine relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349053**

KAREN 34, sexy leggy brunette who knows there's more to life than just work! WLTM confident professional male for time off, meets in London and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342525**

DAISY sexy, voluptuous, leggy, blonde, seeks male, 76 plus who knows how to treat a lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348889**

DOROTHY 70's, 5ft, fair hair, likes coast, Chinese food, seeks male for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 342451**

ELSIE 5ft 8ins, 70's, OHAC, N/S, likes pub lunches, walks, seeks gent for company, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348425**

JO tall, blonde, blue eyes, sexy figure, seeks male for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347421**

ATTRACTIVE slim, easygoing, lady, 30's, likes travel, nights in, seeks genuine, solvent white male, 36-48 for no strings relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 346955**

65YR old female, 5ft 2ins, likes golf, reading, garden, holidays, seeks guy to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 340495**

NATALIA attractive, brunette, brown eyes, 40's, N/S, slim, fit, friendly, seeks sincere, N/S, solvent male for love and relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 344393**

STRAIGHT female, 60-75 seeking male companionship, no complications for fun and socialising, gay man welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341379**

PROFESSIONAL attractive, friendly, black British female, mid 40's, size 10-12 likes socialising, seeks sincere male of any nationality for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341125**

TRACEY 45, sexy Scorpio, tattooed, petite, affectionate, likes music, comedy, cinema, seeks tall, medium build, tattooed, easygoing male, 45-48 with GSOH. Maidstone. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 341045**

EMMA 31, dark hair, brown eyes, attractive, outgoing, likes bands, cinema, meals out, seeks good looking male for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 337213**

GLADYS sensual, loving, short hair, likes cooking, seeks Christian gent with no ties for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 340025**

WANTED dates & mates! Kim 53, straight, seeks people for socialising, drinking, holidays etc. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 340019**

NICK 43, petite blonde, green eyes, seeks genuine guy for company, fun, friendship and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 339115**

ATTRACTIVE slim single mum, 44, seeks similar tall male, 40-50, caring, loving and loyal, are you? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 334393**

LISA 42, medium build, likes cooking, walks, music, days in/out, WLTM caring, down to earth male, 40-50. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332817**

JAN 53, tall, brown hair, likes most things, seeks kind, loving, older, genuine male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 332497**

5FT 2ins female, dark hair, medium build, late 40's, GSOH, likes cinema, walks, family life, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350381**

DENISE young 50, likes cuddles, nights in/out, seeks male, 37-47 for LTR. Erith. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382864**

Men Seeking

KIND affectionate male, seeks likeminded lady. Tonbridge/Sevenoaks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383518**

JOHN 57, 5ft 11ins, medium build, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383498**

MALE seeks female, 62-65 for friendship, maybe more. Herne Bay. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383474**

TALL attractive white male, 48, considerate, easygoing, likes arts, theatre, Oriental culture, seeks female of any age with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356719**

WHITE guy 50's, seeks black/Asian/Oriental lady for friendship, maybe more. Medway. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356689**

ALAN young 46, attractive, green eyes, brown hair, 6ft, medium build, white, fun, loyal, N/S, seeks female for friendship/romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356671**

RICHARD dark hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, easygoing, loving, caring, likes holidays, theatre, countryside, cinema, historic buildings, music, walks, seeks female 38-56 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356389**

62YR old male, 6ft 1ins, medium build, brown hair/eyes, seeks female, 62-65 for friendship, maybe more. Herne Bay. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356253**

GENUINE white male, GSOH, seeks attractive, curvy, black female, 33-43 with strong personality and in control of life for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356215**

MIKE 6ft 2ins, grey hair, builder, enjoys life, likes walks, seaside, beaches, cinema, nights in, seeks honest, caring female for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356081**

PETER 57, blue eyes, full head of hair, likes sport, meals out, drinks, seeks nice, down to earth female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356067**

YOUTHFUL 67yr old male, likes ceroc dancing, seeks youthful partner, 45-65 for fun, laughter and friendship. Dartford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351553**

STRIKINGLY attractive, tall, black man, London born, 45, very well dressed, athletic, seeks faithful, adventurous, truthful woman for unforgettable adventures. Am I asking too much? **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 350581**

RICHARD 49, 6ft, slim, professional, GSOH, tactile, affectionate, likes most things, seeks slim, affectionate female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 349519**

PAUL 48, slim, 6ft, seeks caring female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348705**

GENUINE male, 47, looks 37, likes shopping, sun bathing, travel, seeks female for platonic friendship only. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348639**

AFFECTIONATE white male, 61, 5ft 7ins, medium build, N/S, varied interests, seeks caring, black/Oriental female with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 347933**

NICK 50's, 5ft 10ins, slim, fair hair, blue eyes, widow, loving, considerate, likes travel, meals out, socialising, culture, classic cars, boating, cycling, walks, seeks female up to 58. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 338657**

ANDY fun guy, seeks attractive, assertive, open minded female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 333965**

LOVING male, 50, younger looks, slim, toned, seeks caring, slim female for romance and fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355611**

DOWN to earth and well presented, likes to wine and dine, show a genuine lady a good time, wants New Year to get off to a good start, meet that someone to take my heart!. LTR in Ashford area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 351717**

MIKE builder, 56, big build, glasses, mousy hair, likes beaches, walks, seeks female to share life with. Maidstone. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355567**

YOUNG guy 40, likes nights out, seeks female for good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355563**

JEFFERY 52, white, 6ft 2ins, medium build, likes meals out, cinema, holidays, seeks single, genuine black female for 1-2-1 relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348663**

MARK 44, quiet, likes walks, cinema, meals out, seeks female, 35-44. Maidstone. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 382680**

YOUSUF likes cinema, sports, seeks slim, honest female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383386**

59YR old male, always puts toilet seat down, likes animals, countryside, 5ft 7ins, heavy build, GSOH, seeks lady who likes to laugh. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355665**

PROFESSIONAL successful male, 45, 6ft, adventurous, fun loving, romantic, seeks attractive, outgoing female to enjoy the good things in life with. Brighton. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355361**

YOUNG 53 easygoing, affectionate, 6ft, N/S, animal lover, varied interests, GSOH, looking for a soul mate. Northfleet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355085**

SHY affectionate male, seeks 18-30yr old chubby, introverted girl for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383392**

RICHARD 46, likes holidays, theatre, historic buildings, cinema, music, seeks female, 37-57 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355867**

WHITE male, 52, likes cinema, holidays, weekends away, seeks sincere, genuine, black lady, 35 plus for serious relationship. London. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354543**

RAMSGATE male, 5ft 5ins, young 60's, caring, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim-medium build, attractive soul mate for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355743**

MALE seeks trustworthy female for friendship and serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355739**

ATTRACTIVE blond, blue eyed male, 47, HIV positive, genuine, sincere, GSOH, seeks warm, sincere female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355731**

DEREK retired, lonely, seeks retired lady for company, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355717**

ANDY funny, seeks likeminded female, 18-35. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355615**

WHITE male, 63, blue eyes, active, N/S, seeks loving, caring, genuine female, 50-60, any nationality for TLC. Herne Bay. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355133**

YOUNG looking 57yr old male, seeks petite, red headed female with lovely green eyes, 38-52 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383182**

TRY me! 56yr old male, down to earth, happy go lucky, likes salsa, ice skating, cinema, meals out, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Sittingbourne. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354999**

TOY boy 20's, seeks Mrs Claus for a fantastic Christmas full of lust and passion. London. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354925**

MALE likes most things, lonely, seeks caring female to put the sparkle back into life. Canterbury. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354385**

52YR old businessman, seeks female to share good and bad times. Herne Bay. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354891**

YOUNG good looking, medium build male, mid 30's, seeks mature, older female for fun and passionate evenings in this cold weather. London/Herts. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354877**

SIMON tall, well built, good looking, fun, seeks female. Kent. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383150**

ATTRACTIVE male, 42, OHAC, likes good things in life, seeks happy, fun loving lady. Single mum welcome. Medway. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383136**

SINGLE professional male, N/S, attractive, 5ft 7ins, medium build, vegetarian, 50, young outlook, seeks white female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354781**

ATTRACTIVE blond, blue eyed male, 47, HIV positive, genuine, sincere, GSOH, OHAC, seeks warm, sincere, female. Essex. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354749**

YOUNG looking 60yr old guy, 5ft 7ins, brown hair/eyes, likes lunches out, seeks slim-medium build female for friendship only. Crawley. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 354713**

Gay Seeking

32YR old male, bi-curious, likes wine, cinema, camping, seeks male, 25-35 for loving ad maybe more. Could you be my Mr Right. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356183**

SINGLE unassertive male, mid 40's, seeks assertive male of any age for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 356269**

ATTRACTIVE non scene gay hunk, late 20's, seeks older, solvent gent, 65 plus for mutual fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 348543**

KEVIN 34, 6ft 2ins, blond hair, medium build, toned, young boyish good looks likes nights out, sports, holidays, seeks similar male, any age for adventurous fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 355984**

BI guy 37, seeks couple/bi guy for fun times. Canterbury. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383290**

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BEST SELLER: Ford Fiesta Econetic – green version of UK's No1 selling car is good to drive and cheap to run as well as stylish

Green is go for commuters

By **STEVE LOADER**

PEOPLE in Kent who still commute into London by car can make major savings now by buying a car from a new 'green list' of cars that escape the capital's newly-increased congestion charge.

And even those who don't commute, but want to cut their motoring costs and their effect on the environment, can also shop for a new greener motor from the same list.

The extra good news is that, unlike many early 'eco-models', the new generation don't ask for too many sacrifices in driving pleasure or on-board 'toys' in order to save you road tax and fuel costs.

Nor do you have to settle for a tiny car – many of these latest lean and mean machines sit in the family hatchback or even junior executive sectors.

The bad news is that you may pay a premium upfront for a greener model in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 69



STYLISH: Peugeot 207 Economique – French chic goes cheap with this stylish yet eco-friendly version of the big-selling supermini

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2009 (59) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI 7D MPV AUTO, BLACK, 750 miles £13,995
2010 (10) VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles £12,995
2010 (10) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1000 miles £11,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £11,495
2010 (10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £10,995
2009 (09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £10,995
2010 (60) CITROEN NEMO SV HDI TURBO MPV AUTO, RED, 100 miles £9,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles £9,995
2010 (10) RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, CITTORION BLUE, 1000 miles £9,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL ASTRA EXCLUSIV 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles £9,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £9,995
2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles £9,495
2009 (09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,995
2009 (09) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles £8,995
2010 (10) NISSAN MICRA N-TEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 500 miles £7,995
2010 (10) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £7,495

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2009 (58) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £8,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £6,995
2009 (59) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 23000 miles £7,995
2007 (07) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £7,995
2005 (05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 58000 miles £6,995
2006 (06) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £6,995

FIESTA

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2008 (57) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 miles £7,995
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2008 (58) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles £6,495
2008 (58) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT MPV AUTO, GOLD, 29000 miles £5,995
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2010 (10) RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, CITTORION BLUE, 1000 miles £9,995
2009 (09) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles £9,995
2009 (58) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £8,995
2009 (58) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles £8,995
2009 (09) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 23000 miles £7,995
2008 (58) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £7,995
2008 (58) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V 5DR MPV AUTO, GREY, 1500 miles £7,995
2008 (58) RENAULT CLIO EXPRESSION 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 700 miles £6,995
2005 (05) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT COUPE CABRIOLET CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 58000 miles £6,995
2008 (58) RENAULT LAGUNA EXPRESSION SPORT TOMTOM 16V ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 9000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 15000 miles £6,995
2005 (05) RENAULT MODUS PRIVILEGE 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 36000 miles £4,995
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2008 (58) CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 500 miles £6,995
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2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £5,995
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2006 (56) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles £4,995
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 10000 miles £4,995
2007 (07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 20000 miles £4,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE PLUS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 3000 miles £4,995

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2008 (08) HYUNDAI COUPE 5DR COUPE AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles £9,995
2007 (56) HYUNDAI COUPE 5DR COUPE AUTO, RED, 4000 miles £8,995
2008 (58) HYUNDAI MATRIX COMFORT MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles £7,495
2008 (08) HYUNDAI I10 COMFORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 7500 miles £6,995
2008 (58) HYUNDAI GETZ GSI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £6,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles £5,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles £5,995
2008 (08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 24000 miles £5,995
2007 (57) HYUNDAI ACCENT ATLANTIC LIMITED EDITION 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £5,995
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2007 (07) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, BLACK, 15000 miles £5,495

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2008 (58) KIA PICANTO 2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 19000 miles £5,995
2007 (57) KIA RIO ICE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles £5,495

DAIHATSU

2008 (58) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles £7,995
2008 (58) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £7,495
2007 (57) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 10000 miles £5,995
2007 (57) DAIHATSU SIRION 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles £5,995

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2008 (58) FIAT PANDA ELEGANZA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles £4,995
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2008 (58) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £7,995
2008 (58) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 2000 miles £7,995
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2010 (60) CITROEN NEMO SV HDI TURBO MPV AUTO, RED, 100 miles £9,995
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2009 (58) FORD MONDEO LX 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 34000 miles £9,995

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2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £11,495
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles £9,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL CORSA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £9,995
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2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £8,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,495
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 2000 miles £8,495
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2007 (57) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 5000 miles £7,495
2008 (57) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 9000 miles £8,995

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2007 (57) MAZDA 3 3 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 6000 miles £8,995
2006 (56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 miles £7,995
2006 (56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 19000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) MAZDA 3 2 CAMELLA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 19000 miles £6,995
2007 (56) MAZDA 3 2 0 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles £5,995

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2009 (09) SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 16V ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLUE, 13000 miles £12,995
2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles £9,495
2009 (59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,995

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2007 (57) TOYOTA RAV4 XT3 VVTI ESTATE AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £13,995
2007 (57) TOYOTA RAV4 XT3 VVTI ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLUE, 16000 miles £13,995
2007 (57) TOYOTA RAV4 XT3 VVTI ESTATE AUTO 4x4, GREY, 16000 miles £13,995
2007 (57) TOYOTA COROLLA VERSO T3 VVTI MPV AUTO, RED, 23000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) TOYOTA AVENSIS T3-X VVTI 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 19000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVTI 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVTI 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £9,995
2008 (58) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVTI 5DR HATCH AUTO, VENETIAN SILVER, 14000 miles £7,995
2007 (56) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 VVTI 5DR HATCH AUTO, VIRON BLUE, 13000 miles £7,995
2006 (56) TOYOTA YARIS VERSO T3 VVTI MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles £7,495
2009 (59) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles £7,495
2008 (58) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £6,995
2008 (58) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 5000 miles £6,995
2004 (54) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1700 miles £5,995
2007 (57) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVTI 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles £5,995
2004 (54) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 6000 miles £5,295
2007 (57) TOYOTA AYGO VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 3000 miles £5,495
2007 (57) TOYOTA AYGO VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles £5,495
2004 (04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 33000 miles £4,495

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2010 (10) NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC 4WD SPORTS UTILITY VEHICLE AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles £19,995
2008 (58) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £14,495
2008 (58) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles £13,995
2010 (10) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1000 miles £11,995
2007 (57) NISSAN QASHQAI VISIA 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 6000 miles £11,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, BEIGEBURP, 6000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles £9,995
2009 (59) NISSAN NOTE VISIA MPV AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles £8,995
2009 (59) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 7000 miles £8,495
2009 (59) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles £8,495
2010 (10) NISSAN PIXO N-TEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 300 miles £7,995
2009 (58) NISSAN MICRA 25 ANNIVERSARY 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £7,995
2008 (58) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, RED, 16000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA SPORT CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £7,995
2006 (56) NISSAN MICRA CC SPORT CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £5,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA SPORTS 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 19000 miles £5,995
2007 (57) NISSAN MICRA SPORTS 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 14000 miles £5,995
2006 (56) NISSAN MICRA SPORTS 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £5,995
2006 (56) NISSAN MICRA N 3DR HATCH AUTO, ARUBA BLUE, 13000 miles £5,995
2004 (54) NISSAN ALMERA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £5,495
2003 (53) NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 15000 miles £2,995

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

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2010 (10) VAUXHALL ASTRA EXCLUSIV 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles £9,995
2009 (59) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 3000 miles £9,995
2009 (59) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V 5X 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 10000 miles £9,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V 5X 5DR HATCH AUTO, PANACOTTA, 13000 miles £5,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V 5X 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £5,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V 5X 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles £5,495
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V 5X 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 18000 miles £5,495
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V 5X 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £5,495

ASTRA ESTATES

2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £7,995
2008 (08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, SILVER, 14000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16R ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 15000 miles £6,995
2008 (08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16R ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £6,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16R ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 13000 miles £6,495
2008 (58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles £5,995

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2009 (59) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI 7D MPV AUTO, BLACK, 750 miles £13,995
2009 (59) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI 7D MPV AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles £13,995
2010 (10) VAUXHALL MERIVA DESIGN 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £10,995
2009 (59) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £8,995
2009 (09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,995
2007 (57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V 5PH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles £8,495
2008 (58) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V 5PH AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 16000 miles £7,995
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2008 (58) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16R MPV AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles £6,495
2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles £5,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V 5PH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 79000 miles £3,995

CHRYSLER

2007 (57) CHRYSLER PT CRUISER LIMITED 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 13000 miles £6,995

PEUGEOT

2007 (57) PEUGEOT 307 SW SE ESTATE AUTO, RED, 12000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) PEUGEOT 207 SPORT 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £7,995
2010 (10) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £7,495
2007 (57) PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 2000 miles £6,995
2007 (57) PEUGEOT 207 S 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 17000 miles £6,495
2007 (57) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 3-TRONIC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 4000 miles £5,495

MITSUBISHI

2007 (57) MITSUBISHI LANCER ELEGANCE ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 19000 miles £6,995

HONDA

2007 (07) HONDA CR-V IVTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 24000 miles £17,995
2007 (07) HONDA CR-V IVTEC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 19000 miles £15,995
2007 (07) HONDA CR-V IVTEC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 17000 miles £13,995
2007 (07) HONDA CR-V IVTEC SPORT ESTATE AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 23000 miles £13,995
2008 (08) HONDA CR-V IVTEC SE ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 36000 miles £11,995
2008 (08) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £10,995
2008 (08) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles £10,995
2008 (08) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles £10,495
2007 (07) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles £8,995
2008 (58) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 33000 miles £8,995

MERCEDES

2009 (09) MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 20000 miles £30,000
2007 (07) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180K AVANTGARDE SE SALOON AUTO, CUBANITE SILVER, 22000 miles £13,995
2008 (57) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180 KOMPRESSOR SE SPORTS COUPE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 22000 miles £13,995
2008 (58) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A170 AVANTGARDE SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 15000 miles £12,995
2008 (08) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 AVANTGARDE SE 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 16000 miles £12,995
2007 (07) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 30000 miles £9,995
2003 (53) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A140 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 46000 miles £4,995

VOLKSWAGEN

2010 (10) VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles £13,995
2008 (57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH PDI 110 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles £11,995
2008 (08) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles £9,995
2007 (07) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 17000 miles £8,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles £8,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £8,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (100BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7400 miles £8,995
2008 (58) VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH 5DR AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles £8,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (100BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 13000 miles £7,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (100BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles £7,495
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, REFLEX SILVER, 16000 miles £7,495
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 22000 miles £6,995
2002 (02) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 54000 miles £3,695
2001 (51) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 71000 miles £3,495
2001 (51) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH, RED, 63000 miles £2,995

DIESEL AUTOMATICS

2008 (08) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI 7D MPV AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles £13,995
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2007 (57) VAUXHALL MERIVA BISHOP CDTI 7D MPV, BLACK, 36000 miles £6,995
2008 (58) HYUNDAI MATRIX CLASSIC MPV, BLACK, 6000 miles £5,995
2008 (58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16R TWINPORT 3DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 2000 miles £5,495
2008 (08) TOYOTA VERSO T SPIRIT VVTI 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 20000 miles £5,495
2007 (57) KIA PICANTO LS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 17000 miles £4,995
2008 (58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE PLUS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 3000 miles £4,995
2007 (57) FIAT PANDA DYNAMIC 5DR HATCH, GREY, 6000 miles £4,995
2008 (58) RENAULT TWINGO DYNAMIQUE 5DR HATCH, ORANGE, 25000 miles £4,995
2008 (08) PEUGEOT 206 SE 5DR HATCH, MIDNIGHTONE SILVER, 36000 miles £3,995
2005 (05) VAUXHALL MERIVA ENJOY 16V TWINPORT MPV, GOLD, 20000 miles £3,995
2007 (57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH, RED, 63000 miles £2,995

SKODA

2008 (58) SKODA ROOMSTER 2 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles £8,995

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58 FORD FOCUS DIESEL ESTATE 1.8 TDCI ZETEC 5DR (2008 - 2009) 20429 MILES	£9999	£8499	£1500
09 FORD FOCUS DIESEL HATCHBACK 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM 5DR (2008 - 2010) 18890 MILES	£11999	£9999	£2000
09 FORD FOCUS DIESEL HATCHBACK 1.6 TDCI TITANIUM 5DR [110] [DPF] (2008 -) 18164 MILES	£11999	£10499	£1500
08 FORD FOCUS 2.5 ST-3 3DR 0 MILES	£13999	£13299	£700
09 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK 1.6 ZETEC 5DR (2008 -) 15610 MILES	£8999	£7999	£1000
09 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK 1.6 ZETEC 5DR (2008 -) 15610 MILES	£8799	£7799	£1000
09 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK 1.6 STYLE 5DR (2008 -) 14960 MILES	£7999	£6999	£1000
09 FORD FOCUS HATCHBACK 1.6 ZETEC 5DR (2008 -) 15610 MILES	£8799	£7799	£1000
10 FORD FOCUS DIESEL HATCHBACK 2.0 TDCI ZETEC S 5DR (2008 - 2010) 18440 MILES	£16999	£15599	£1400
57 FORD C-MAX ESTATE 1.8 STYLE 5DR (2007 - 2010) 14821 MILES	£7999	£6499	£1500
57 FORD C-MAX ESTATE 1.8 STYLE 5DR (2007 - 2010) 14821 MILES	£7999	£6499	£1500
57 FORD C-MAX ESTATE 1.8 STYLE 5DR (2007 - 2010) 14821 MILES	£7999	£6999	£1000
57 FORD C-MAX ESTATE 1.6 STYLE 5DR (2007 - 2010) 14476 MILES	£7999	£6999	£1000
07 FORD C-MAX ESTATE 1.8 STYLE 5DR (2007 - 2010) 14821 MILES	£7799	£6999	£800
57 FORD C-MAX ESTATE 2.0 ZETEC 5DR AUTO (2007 - 2010) 17012 MILES	£7999	£6999	£1000
59 FORD FIESTA PETROL HATCHBACK EDGE (2010.5) 3 DR 1.25 82PS STAGE V (-) 12705 MILES	£8999	£7499	£1500
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10 FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCI ZETEC 5DR	£11999	£10499	£1500
56 FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCI ZETEC 5DR [CLIMATE]	£5999	£5499	£500
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10 FORD FIESTA DIESEL HATCHBACK EDGE (2009) 5 DR 1.4 68PS TDCI (-) 14130 MILES	£11999	£10499	£1500
10 FORD FIESTA DIESEL HATCHBACK ZETEC S (2010.5) 3 DR 1.6TDCI 90PS STAGE V (-) 14315 MILES	£12999	£11999	£1000
10 FORD FIESTA DIESEL HATCHBACK ECONETIC (2009) 5 DR 1.6 TDCI 90 + DPF (-) 15188 MILES	£12999	£11999	£1000
57 FORD FIESTA HATCHBACK 1.25 ZETEC 5DR [CLIMATE] (2005 - 2008) 9655 MILES	£6999	£5999	£1000
58 FORD KA 1.2 STYLE+ 3DR	£7499	£6999	£500
09 FORD MONDEO DIESEL HATCHBACK 2.2 TDCI TITANIUM X 5DR (2008 - 2010) 27091 MILES	£13999	£12999	£1000
09 FORD MONDEO DIESEL HATCHBACK 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM X 5DR (2007 - 2010) 23205MILES	£13999	£12999	£1000
59 FORD MONDEO DIESEL HATCHBACK 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM 5DR [140] AUTO (2008 - 2010) 25236 MILES	£13499	£12799	£700
57 FORD MONDEO PETROL HATCHBACK EDGE () 5 DR 1.6 DURATEC 125PS (-) 14438 MILES	£8499	£7999	£1000
57 FORD FUSION PETROL HATCHBACK FUSION + (2007.25) 5-DR 1.6 100PS (-) 12317 MILES	£6999	£5999	£1000
57 FORD FUSION PETROL HATCHBACK ZETEC (2006) 5-DR AUTO 1.6 100PS (-) 10750 MILES	£6999	£5999	£1000
08 MINI COOPER 1.6 3DR 0 MILES	£11999	£9999	£2000
08 CHEVROLET MATIZ HATCHBACK SPECIAL EDITIONS 1.0 FLAIR 5DR (2007 - 2008)	£3999	£3499	£500
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05 PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S 5DR	£5999	£4999	£1000
56 VOLVO V50 2.0D SPORT 5DR [EURO 4]	£9999	£8999	£1000
53 VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8I LS 5DR	£4499	£3499	£1000
07 RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 VVT DYNAMIQUE 4DR	£5999	£4999	£1000
56 CITROEN C1 1.0I RHYTHM 3DR	£5999	£5199	£800
06 KIA PICANTO HATCHBACK 1.1 LX 5DR AUTO (2004 - 2006) 6218 MILES	£4499	£3999	£500
57 DAIHATSU SIRION 1.0 SE 5DR	£5999	£4999	£1000
10 FORD KUGA DIESEL ESTATE 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM 5DR (2008 - 2010) 21556 MILES	£21999	£20999	£1000
03 MG ZR 1.8 120 + 3DR STEP AUTO	£2999	£2699	£300
57 FORD FUSION PETROL HATCHBACK FUSION + (2007.25) 5-DR 1.6 100PS (-) 12317 MILES	£6999	£5999	£1000
02 FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI ZETEC 5DR [110] [EURO 4] [CLIMATE PACK]	£5999	£4999	£1000
08 MINI COOPER 1.6 3DR	£11999	£9999	£2000
08 CHEVROLET MATIZ HATCHBACK SPECIAL EDITIONS 1.0 FLAIR 5DR (2007 - 2008)	£3999	£3499	£500

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(09) 59 MEGANE 1.6 16v 110 DYNAMIQUE

5 dr, Black, ABS, Air con, Alloys, Front armrests, CD/Radio, Alarm, Elec mirrors, Elec front & rear windows, Front fogs, PAS, Remote central lock, Trip comp, Cloth trim. 7,911 K

£9995



(05) 05 MODUS 1.5 Dci 86 DYNAMIQUE EURO 4

Diesel, 5 dr ABS, Alloys, Central Lock, CD/Radio, Elec Mirrors, Front Elec Windows, Front Fogs, PAS, Remote central lock, Trip Comp, Cloth Trim. 61,701K

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(07) 57 SCENIC 1.6VVT DYNAMIQUE ESTATE

5 dr, Silver, ABS, Air Con, Alloys, Radio/CD, Alarm, Elec Mirrors, Elec Windows, Front Fog, Remote central lock, Trip Comp. 17,201K

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(05) 05 ZAFIRA 2.0 DTi DESIGN ESTATE

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£5495



(06) 06 POLO 1.2 S 64

5 dr, Met Black, CD, Cloth Upholstery, DVD, Elec Windows, Foglights, PAS, Radio, Alloys, Central Lock, Elec Front Windows, IPod connection, ABS, Air Con, Alloys. Central lock. 34,362K

£6995



(07) 07 FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC

5 dr, Met Grey, ABS, Alloys, CD/Radio, Sports Seats, Alarm, Elec Mirrors, Front Elec Windows, Front Fogs, PAS, Remote Central Lock, Trip Comp, Cloth Trim, Space Saver Spare Wheel. 37,154K

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Mileage 75000



07 57 Volkswagen Transporter 1.9 TDi T28 SWB 102 BHP
1 Owner, 97,000 miles, FSH, ABS, RCL, Immob, Side Loading door, CD, Ply Lined, White



03 03 Mini Cooper S 3dr
Hatchback, Grey, Petrol 1598cc,
6-Speed Manual, 88000 Miles



05 55 Volvo V50 2.4 SE
Semi-Auto Est, 1 owner, 59k mls, FDSH, AC, Cruise, ABS, PAS, RCL, immob, htd seats, SIPS, EW, ESR, CD, leather, alloys, Met Blue



05 05 Mitsubishi Evo 2.0 FQ-340 IX4 GSR 380 BHP
35,000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, EW, Body Kit, EM, CD, Leather, Alloys, Flame Red

ESTATES, MPV'S & 4x4'S

05 55 Volvo V50 2.4 SE Semi-Auto Est, 1 owner, 59,000 mls, FDSH, AC, Cruise, ABS, PAS, RCL, immob, htd seats, SIPS, EW, ESR, CD, leather, alloys, Met Blue £8,495

07 57 Seat Alhambra 2.0 Tdi Reference Est, 7 seats, 6sp, 1 owner, 92,000 mile, FSH, ABS, PAS, RCL, immob, EW, CD, Met Blue £7,995

08 58 Ford Focus 1.8 TD Style 5dr Est, 1 owner, FSH, a/c, ABS, PAS, r/c/locking, immob, e/w, CD, in met black £7,495

08 08 Ford Focus 1.8 TDCi Style Est, 1 owner, 64000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, EW, CD, Met Grey .£6,695

07 07 Ford Focus 1.8 TDCi LX Est, 1 owner, 73,000 miles, FSH, AC, RCL, Immob, E/Htd Mirrors, CD in Tango .. £5,995

07 07 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 CTDI Club Est, 1 Owner, FSH, AC, Cruise, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, EM, CD, Met Silver .. £4,495

01 51 Volkswagen Golf 2.0 SE Auto Est, 2 Owners, 83,000 miles, FSH, Climate, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, EM, Htd Seats, CD, Met Green £2,995

02 02 Alfa Romeo 156 1.6 T-Spark Turismo Est, 3 Owners, 63,000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, CD, Leather, Alloys, Met Silver £2,995

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05 05 Vauxhall Astra 2.0 Bertone Turbo Convertible, 28,000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, Cruise, RCL, Immob, EW, Htd Seats, Alloys, Peacock Blue £6995

02 52 Mercedes C230K 1.8 Coupe 2 dr, 94k, fsh, a/c, cruise, PAS, r/c/locking, immob, panoramic s/roof, e/w, CD, htd seats, leather, alloys, in silver £6.495

01 Y Subaru Impreza 2.0 WRX Turbo 4dr, 2 Owners, 75,000 miles, SH, AC, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, EW, CD, Alloys, Silver £4,995

02 52 Peugeot 206 1.6 Coupe Convertible, 59,000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, ER, EW, CD, Leather, Alloys, Met Blue £4,295

HATCHBACKS

08 08 NEW SHAPE Ford Mondeo 2.0 TDCi Edge 5dr, 6sp, 1 owner, 75,000 miles FSH, a/c, ABS, PAS, cruise, r/c/locking, immob, e/w, CD, in met black £7,695

07 57 Seat Leon 1.9 TDi Reference 5 dr, 1 owner, 73k, FSH, a/c, ABS, PAS, r/c/locking, immob, e/w, CD, in met black £6,995

05 55 Volkswagen Golf 1.4 S 5dr, 2 owners, 58,000k, FDSH, ABS, PAS, a/c, r/c/locking, immob, e/w, CD, in blue ... £5,995

07 57 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 Life CDTi 5dr, 6sp, 1 Owner, 48,000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, EW, CD, Met Black £5,995

07 07 Ford Mondeo 2.0 LX TDCi 5dr, 1 Owner, 68,000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, Cruise, RCL, Immob, EW, CD, Met Black £4,995

03 03 Mini Cooper 1.6 S 3dr, 6sp, FDSH, AC, ABS, PAS, CBC, RCL, Immob, EW, EM, CD, 1/2 Leather, Alloys, Met Grey £5,695

07 57 Mazda 6 TS 2.0D 143 BHP, 1 owner, 96,000 miles, AC, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, EW, EM, CD, Alloys, Met Silver £5,495

07 57 Renault Clio 1.2 S Dynamique 16v Turbo 3dr, 1 owner, 62k, FSH, ABS, PAS, A/C, E/W, CD, Alloy, in Met Blue £4,995

07 57 Ford KA 1.3 Style 3dr, 1 Owner, 37,000 miles, FSH, ABS, PAS, CL, Immob, EW, Radio/CD, Drivers Airbag, Cloth Trim, White £3,995

04 54 Vauxhall Vectra 1.8 Life 5dr , 96,000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, CBC, RCL, Immob, EW, EM, CD, Met Silver .. £3,495

04 54 Renault Clio 1.2 16V Extreme 3 3DR, 1 owner, 51,000 mls, FDSH, ABS, PAS, r/c/locking, immob, sunroof, CD, e/w, in silver £3,495

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08 57 MitsubishiL200 2.5 DI-D4 WORK, D/C, 1 owner,80,000L, FSH, ABS, PAS, c/locking, immob, CD, r/d lock, in white £7,495 +vat

07 07 Mitsubishi L200 2.5 DI-D 4 Life Double Cab, 1 owner 63,000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, CL, Immob, EW, CD, Side steps. In white £7,495 +vat

07 57 Volkswagen Transporter 1.9 TDi T28 SWB 102 BHP, 1 owner, 97,000 miles, FSH, ABS, PAS, RCL, immob, Side loading door, CD, Ply Lined, White £6,995 +vat

07 57 Mercedes Vito109 2.2 CDi Xtra Long Van, 6sp, 1 owner, 111,000 miles, FSH, ABS, PAS, r/c/locking, immob, CD, ply lined, in white £6,995 +vat

06 56 Mercedes Vito 109 2.2 CDi Compact SWB, 6sp, 2 Owneras, 64,000 miles, FSH, ABS, PAS, ASR, RCL, Immob, EW, CD, Twin Side Loading Drs, White £6,995 +vat

07 07 Ford Transit 100 2.4 TDCi T350 LWB, 1 owner, 113k, FSH, ABS, PAS, R/C/L, Immob, CD, Met Silver .. £5,995 +vat

07 57 Mercedes Vito 2.2 CDi 109 LWB, 3 seater, 6sp, 1 Owner, 117,000 miles, FSH, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, CD, Ply Lined, Twin side loading drs, White £6,495 +vat

07 07 Vauxhall Astra 1.9 CDTi Sportive Van, 6sp, 1 owner, 79k, FSH, A/C, ABS, PAS, R/C/L, Immob, E/W, Alloys, Met Silver £5,495 +vat

07 57 Ford Transit 85 2.2D T280 SWB, 3 seater, 1 Owner, 104,000 miles, ABS, PAS, ESP, RCL, Immob, CD, Ply Lined, Side loading dr, White £5,995 +vat

07 07 Ford Transit 100 2.4D T350 LWB, Semi High Roof, 3 seater, 1 owner, 117,000 miles, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, CD, Ply lined, CD, Side loading dr, White £5,995 +vat

07 57 Ford Transit 85 2.2 TDCi T280 SWB, Semi High Roof, 3 seater, 1 owner, 103,000 miles, FSH, ABS, PAS, R/C/L, Immobiliser in White £5,995 +vat

07 07 PEUGEOT EXPERT 1.9D 815 70, 3 SEATER, 1 owner, 60,000 miles, FS, C/Locking, Immob, CD, Ply Lined in White £4,995 +vat

08 57 Volkswagen Caddy 2.0 SDi 69PS, 1 Owner, 106,000 miles, ABS, PAS, ASR, RCL, Immob, CD, Ply Lined, White £4,995 +vat

07 07 Vauxhall Astravan 1.7 CDTi Sportive, 6sp, 110,000 miles, FSH, A/C, ABS, PAS, R/C/L, E/W, Immobiliser, Alloys, CD in White £4,495 +vat

07 07 Vauxhall Astra 1.7 CDTi Club Van, 6sp, 1 Owner, 82,000 miles, FSH, AC, EW, PAS, Roof rack, CD, RC Locking, Immob. In White £3,995 +vat

07 07 Vauxhall Astra 1.3 CDTi Club, 1 Owner, 70,000 miles, FSH, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, EW, CD, White ... £3,995 +vat

07 07 Vauxhall Astravan 1.3 CDTi Club, 6sp, 1 Owner, 61,000 miles, FSH, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, EW, CD, White £3,995 +vat

07 56 Vauxhall Astravan 1.3 CDTi Club, 6sp, 1 Owner, 61,000 miles, FSH, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, CD, Ply Lined, White £3,995 +vat



Volkswagen Caddy 2.0 C20 SDi Van
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08 08 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 TDi SE est
6 Sp, 1 Owner, 64000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, SIPS, EW, CD, Alloys, Met Silver



07 57 Ford Focus 1.8 TDCi Style 5dr
1 Owner, 47,000 miles, FSH, AC, ABS, PAS, RCL, Immob, Computer, CD, Met Blue



05 55 Volkswagen Golf 1.4 S 5dr
Hatchback, Blue, Petrol 1390cc, 5-Speed, Manual, 58000 miles



02 02 Alfa Romeo 1.6 T.spark Turismo Sportwagon
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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 16.5 (17.1) – 61.4 (4.6), Extra-urban: 32.8 (8.6) – 88.3 (3.2), Combined: 24.2 (11.7) – 76.3 (3.7). CO_2emissions: 274 – 98g/km.

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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Good news as Seat extends VAT free deal

SPANISH marque Seat is blowing away post-Christmas gloom with news of an extended VAT-free offer and VAT cuts, just as the UK rate rises to 20 per cent.

The various offers run throughout the first quarter of 2011 to March 31 and is even available to operators of small vehicle fleets as well as private buyers.

The VW-owned marque also points out that Kent commuters into London can benefit from its ultra-low emission and road tax exempt Ibiza and Leon E Ecomotive versions escaping the daily Congestion Charge for the capital – newly hiked from £8 to £10.



Hyundai plays a three-door trick

IT HAS been two years since Hyundai bowed out of the coupe market.

But the various incarnations before the 2002-09 version were, to be honest, pretty horrible to look at and sold largely through the Korean marque's value for money proposition.

Nowadays though, Hyundai sells as much on design as it does on value and, of course, its universal five-year unlimited mileage warranty.

So a new coupe glamour car was well overdue and we'll get one later this year.

It's more than striking to look at too, because the new Veloster will have a unique three-door configuration.

And that's not shorthand for two doors and tailgate; it means two main side doors and one rear side door for easier access to the rear seats, plus disguised exterior handle to maintain the coupe look.

The Veloster will be offered with a new direct injection 1.6-litre petrol engine and a twin-clutch transmission offering the best of manual and automatic driving without a fuel penalty.



New C4 hits the deal straight away



CITROËN'S stylish new C4 went on sale this week, priced from £15,595 and with zero per cent finance deals offered straight away.

Sold only as a five-door model for now, the new car's compact external dimensions contrast with generous internal volumes and a class-leading 408-litre boot.

The French marque has also gone upmarket with the cabin and there are luxury options such as Denon hi-fi and massaging front seats, though spec levels across the three trim levels – VTR, VTR+ and Exclusive – are all generous.

There are four HDi diesel engines and three BMW co-developed petrol units with five or six-speed manual gearboxes and a fuel-saving intelligent six-speed auto/manual EGS 'box.

The line-up also includes a fuel-sipping e-HDi diesel version capable of averaging nearly 70mpg.

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CRUZE 1.6 S rrp £13,795
Caffyns price **£10,495**
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CAPTIVA 2.0 VCDi LT 5 Seats rrp £22,815
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Motability

Vehicles shown feature metallic paint at extra cost (Spark, Aveo at £375 and Cruze, Captiva at £410). 5 year warranty up to 100,000 miles, expires whichever occurs first. This offer includes Chevrolet's standard Customer Care Commitment for a 2 year unlimited mileage manufacturer's warranty, and third year manufacturer's warranty with a 60,000 mile limitation. The warranty excludes wear and tear and serviceable items and the vehicle has to be serviced in accordance with the manufacturer's servicing schedule. *Savings shown are against recommended retail price at time of publication. Calls may be recorded and monitored for training purposes. Prices correct at time of press.

Official Government Environment Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Aveo 1.4 LT 5dr: Urban - 35.8 (7.9), Extra-urban - 60.1 (4.7), Combined - 47.9 (5.9). CO2 emissions 140g/km. Captiva 2.0 VCDi LT 5-seat: Urban - 32.1 (8.8), Extra-urban - 45.6 (6.2), Combined - 39.2 (7.2). CO2 emissions 191g/km. Cruze 1.6 S 4dr: Urban - 31.4 (9.0), Extra-urban - 51.4 (5.5), Combined - 41.5 (6.8). CO2 emissions 159g/km. Spark 1.2 LT 5dr: Urban - 42.8 (6.6), Extra-urban - 67.3 (4.2), Combined - 55.4 (5.1). CO2 emissions 119g/km.

0352

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 61

order to save money in the longer term.

In the case of city commuters, the savings are considerable under the revised congestion charge from January 4, when the daily rate rose from £8 to £10.

This means relief worth a potential £2,500 off your motoring budget and on top of the road tax saving and greater fuel economy/savings that go with cars emitting less than 100 g/km of CO2.

Previously, it was only electric cars – a rarity on the market until this year – and hybrids that escaped the charge.

The green stars now exempted are:

CITY CARS

- Hyundai i10
- Smart ForTwo diesel
- Toyota IQ

SUPERMINIS

- Citroën C3 Airdream+
- Citroën DS3 dsl on energy saver tyres
- Fiat 500 TwinAir Dualogic
- Fiat Punto Eco
- Ford Fiesta Econetic
- Peugeot 207 Economique
- Seat Ibiza Ecomotive
- Skoda Fabia Greenline
- Vauxhall Corsa (eight versions)
- VW Polo BlueMotion

FAMILY HATCHBACKS

- Audi A3 Stop-Start
- Ford Focus Econetic
- Mini One and Cooper diesels
- Seat Leon Ecomotive
- VW Golf BlueMotion

EXECUTIVE

- Volvo C30 DRIVe
- Volvo S40 DRIVe
- Volvo V50 DRIVe

HYBRIDS

- Toyota Prius
- Toyota Auris



LIVELY: Fiat 500 TwinAir Dualogic – Italian brand's remarkable car delivers lively performance and fun with ultra-low emissions and excellent economy from a tiny twin-cylinder engine.



VALUE: Skoda Fabia Greenline – an estate model that packs lots in yet costs little to run



BIG PLAYER: Hyundai i10 – the sales success of this five-door mini marvel has established Hyundai as a major force with UK buyers, who used to be snobby about the badge



SMART: Citroën C3 – the new generation five-door supermini arrived last year and is strong on economy across the range, but the aptly named Airdream+ is the eco star

ELECTRIC

- Mitsubishi MiEV
- Nissan Leaf
- Peugeot Ion
- Smart ForTwo Electric

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CRÉATIVE TECHNOLOGIE

CITROËN

*On the road recommended prices & offers apply to retail sales of qualifying New Citroën C4 vehicles ordered 04 – 31/01/11 & registered by 31/03/11 & include VAT, delivery to Dealer & number plates, Government First Registration Fee, & 12 months' graduated Vehicle Excise Duty. Black/metallic/pearlescent paint optional at extra cost. From price shown: New Citroën C4 HDi 90 manual VTR. °0% APR typical finance available over 3 years on all New C4 models. Finance subject to status. Written quotations available on request from Citroën Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1QA, UK. Over 18s only. A guarantee may be required. †The equipment mentioned is available on selected New C4 VTR+ & Exclusive models. Please see your dealer for full details. ¹First year only. Offers, prices & specification correct at time of going to press from participating Dealers. Terms & conditions apply. Please ask us for details. Subject to stock availability. Finance offers apply to UK only.

Official Government fuel consumption figures (Range): Urban cycle, Extra urban, Combined (litres per 100km/mpg) & CO_2 emissions (g/km); Highest: New Citroën C4 THP 155 EGS6 Exclusive 8.6/32.8, 5.1/55.4, 6.4/44.1, 148. Lowest: New Citroën C4 e-HDi 110 Airdream EGS6 VTR+ 4.7/60.1, 3.8/74.3, 4.2/67.3, 109.

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ALFA ROMEO

147, TS LUSSO, 2002, abs brakes alloy wheels cruise control electric windows immobiliser power steering, iridescent nuvola blue, 40000 miles, £2500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

147, TS TURISMO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint remote audio controls adjustable steering column rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, red, 14500 miles, £6300, Tunbridge Wells, 08448 759297 (TRADE)

147, TS LUSSO, 2002, abs brakes alloy wheels cruise control electric windows immobiliser power steering, iridescent nuvola blue, 40000 miles, £2500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

147, TS TURISMO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors split folding rear seats sports seats trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls adjustable steering column rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, red, 14500 miles, £6300, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

147, TS LUSSO, 2002, abs brakes alloy wheels cruise control electric windows immobiliser power steering, iridescent nuvola blue, 40000 miles, £2500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

147, TS TURISMO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors split folding rear seats sports seats trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls adjustable steering column rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, red, 14500 miles, £6300, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

147, TS LUSSO, 2002, abs brakes alloy wheels cruise control electric windows immobiliser power steering, iridescent nuvola blue, 40000 miles, £2500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

147, TS TURISMO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors split folding rear seats sports seats trip computer curtain airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls adjustable steering column heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, red, 14500 miles, £6300, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

AUDI

A3, 2.0T FSI S LINE DSG, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats column body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, grey, 84428 miles, £8750, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, 1.6, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control remote central locking, silver, 8367 miles, £15000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 TDi 170 SE 3dr S Tronic, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats traction control remote central locking adjustable steering column front armrest rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, pearl moro blue, 24000 miles, £10495, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, TFSI Black Edition(Plus Motorparks Pack and Del), 2009, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control remote central locking, white, 15385 miles, £18000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 tdi se, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering traction control twin airbags remote central locking adjustable steering column front armrest body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, silver, 59000 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, Sport (Plus Motorparks Pack and Delivery), 2003, abs brakes alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering single cd player, silver, 68000 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, SE FSI, 2006, air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking electric windows full service history metallic paint multiple airbags remote central locking, mauve met. 24500 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, Sport (Plus Motorparks Pack and Delivery), 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking, blue, 35000 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, SE FSI, 2006, air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking electric windows full service history metallic paint multiple airbags remote central locking, mauve met. 24500 miles, £9500, Maidstone, 08448 759296 (TRADE)

A3, 1.6, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control remote central locking, silver, 8367 miles, £15000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BMW

1 SERIES, 120D M Sport 2.0, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player diesel drivers airbag body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, titanium silver, 2539 miles, £23000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120SPORT, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel electric windows full service history half leather trim metallic paint, met blue, 110000 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 118D ES 2.0, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, titanium silver, 15629 miles, £12000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i SE, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering f deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, grey, 59000 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i SPORT, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, blue, 24123 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120d Sport, 2006, abs brakes alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player traction control front parking sensors, black, 44450 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, SE STEP AUTO, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels automatic transmission diesel electric windows power steering, solid japan red, 46400 miles, £8200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 320 SE, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control diesel drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser power steering, black, 62000 miles, £8500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 120SPORT, 2005, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel electric windows full service history half leather trim metallic paint, met blue, 110000 miles, £7000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 118i M Sport (6), 2006, silver, 47642 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 118i SE 5 DOOR, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control electric windows front fog lights metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass front armrest, silver metallic, 29621 miles, £10500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i ES (6), 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering, grey, 27599 miles, £10500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 118i SE 5 door, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking climate control electric windows front fog lights full service history metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats tinted glass front armrest, silver metallic, 29621 miles, £10500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 118i M Sport (6), 2006, silver, 47642 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i ES (6), 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering, grey, 27599 miles, £10500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

1 SERIES, 116i M Sport 1.6, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, sapphire black, 42868 miles, £11500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CITROEN

C1, 1.0i VT 3dr Hatch, gl10awf, pas, abs, radio/cd, passenger airbag, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, front head restraints, cloth seat trim, full size spare wheel, steel wheels, rear wiper, red, 480 miles, £5995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C1, 1.0i Splash 5dr Hatch Special Edition, gk60tnf, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, passenger airbag, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, full size spare wheel, steel wheels, cloth seat trim, rear wiper, front head restraints, blue, 10 miles, £7345, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C1, 1.0i Splash 3dr Hatch Special Edition, gj60vvu, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, passenger airbag, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, full size spare wheel, steel wheels, cloth seat trim, rear wiper, front head restraints, blue, 10 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, red, 55 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, silver, 50 miles, £10990, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, VT (Price plus charges for paint and delivery), 2010, grey, 6 miles, £6413, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, Vibe, 2006, abs brakes central locking drivers airbag immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player, blue, 42411 miles, £4000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, VT (Price plus charges for paint and delivery), 2010, cd player drivers airbag power steering, green, 6 miles, £6413, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4 HDI Rhythm, 2009, abs brakes cd player immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points space saver spare wheel, silver, 2000 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, VT, 2010, blue, 6 miles, £6665, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.0i AIRPLAY, 2007, cd player electric windows power steering tonneau cover remote central locking, red, 18500 miles, £5000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, Cool, 2007, cd player drivers airbag immobiliser, grey, 20160 miles, £4700, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, cd player central locking electric windows, red, 50 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, red, 55 miles, £11100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, grey, 6978 miles, £11200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, VTR, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests space saver spare wheel, silver metallic, 1400 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

C1, VT (Price plus charges for paint and delivery), 2010, grey, 6 miles, £6413, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, grey, 6978 miles, £11200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4, 2008, red, 55 miles, £11100, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

C1, VTR, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning cd player drivers airbag remote central locking body coloured bumpers rear headrests space saver spare wheel, silver metallic, 1400 miles, £7500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FIAT

BRAVO, T-Jet Active, 2010, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, silver, 2772 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, T-Jet Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering reverse parking aid, blue, 14475 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, T-Jet Dynamic, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, grey, 7000 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Multijet Active, 2007, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, silver, 33300 miles, £5500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, Multijet Dynamic Eco, 2010, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, grey, 3585 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.4 TJet 150 Active, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags trip computer deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, black, 23562 miles, £6500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.4 T-Jet Active 5dr Hatch, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, rear headrests, front head restraints, cloth seat trim, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, space saver spare wheel, isofix child seat anchor points, 3x3 point rear seat belts, immobiliser, height adjustable drivers seat, grey metallic, 18000 miles, £7495, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

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BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £13990, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

BRAVO, 1.9 MULTIJET DYNAMIC, 2008, abs brakes alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player climate control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats tonneau cover trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 6945 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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BRAVO, 1.9, 2008, black, 55 miles, £13980, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

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INSIDE THIS WEEK



THERE'S a definite transport theme, starting with news from Dartford car producer Caterham, the arrival of P&O Ferries' stunning Pride of Britain, and a diary date to gain an insight into the fast-moving world of the Red Arrows. And savour further proof of growing interest in Kent's food and drink, as championed by the Goods Shed in Canterbury.

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By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

Bargain-hungry shoppers boost second centre

RECORD numbers of shoppers flocked to the Ashford Designer Outlet between Christmas and New Year to boost sales by 21 per cent year on year.

It is the second major Kent shopping centre to report record seasonal results at a time when retail demand has been flat generally – as reported here last week, Bluewater at Greenhithe hit a new peak on December 27.



BUSY: Ashford's Designer Outlet

The Ashford centre, part of the Europe-wide McArthurGlen group, also saw consumer footfall rise three per cent over the holidays.

The retail group attributed the trend to the rise in consumers receiving cash gifts and vouchers due to December's snow disruption, causing families to look for alternative gift ideas. It also believes shoppers adopted a 'bargain-hungry' mentality ahead of the VAT rise from 17.5 per cent to 20.

McArthurGlen Ashford manager David Maddison said: "Many brands including Tommy Hilfiger, Ted Baker, Gap, Next and Marks & Spencer all saw exceptional sales after the festive break. Phase Eight also enjoyed strong sales, trading +35 per cent year-on-year, with dresses the top performing category.

"Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, December 26-28, were peak sales days, with stores employing additional staff to ensure visitors' shopping experience went smoothly."

But the buoyant news from the big centres continues to jar against gloomy reports from the retail sector overall, notably new figures from the British Retail Consortium this week, which showed sales values falling 0.3 per cent on against December, 2009, though sales volumes actually rose 1.5 per cent.

The BRC also blamed the weather for uncertainty in the sector. Director general Stephen Robertson said: "The unusually early winter weather made a difficult Christmas worse.

"With mounting concerns about the impact of spending cuts and the wider economy, sales growth has been weak since last summer.

"December was always likely to be similarly unspectacular but the snow and ice dealt an extra blow to business for many retailers.

"Catch-up shopping gave a big boost to the week just before Christmas and the post-Christmas clearances were strong for non-food retailing, but neither was enough to replace every sale lost earlier in the month.

"This is no return to the dire picture two years ago, but the message for the Chancellor is: concentrate on delivering growth and leave any new burdens out of your March Budget."

Revealed: First new Caterham in years



SPORTS car maker Caterham has unveiled its first entirely new model for 16 years and it has been designed for track competition rather than the road, *writes Steve Loader*.

The firm, which produces its legendary Caterham 7 two-seater at Dartford, has created the new 300bhp Ford-powered SP/300R for a new one-make race series due in 2012, to cater for the growing popularity of circuit trackdays attracting amateur drivers. The eye-catching £60,000 newcomer has been designed in conjunction with established race car creator Lola of Huntingdon. Sources at Caterham say it is unclear yet whether the project will create new production jobs at Dartford, though this is being looked at. For now, the 25 cars per year are expected to be produced by Lola, which has experience across most motor racing formulas.

Region bears brunt of fraud boom

FRAUDSTERS notched a record 20 per cent increase in scams last year and the South East, including Kent, bore the brunt of it.

Of a UK total of 314 major frauds worth nearly £14 million, our region fell victim to 143 worth £110m altogether, or about 80 per cent.

The next closest was Birmingham and the Midlands, with 46 cases worth nearly £70m.

The figures from accountancy and audit giant KPMG's 'fraud barometer' also showed that 42 per cent of all cases had defrauded the public purse, totalling £571m.

KPMG spokesman Hitesh Patel said the South East's record was a particular concern: "With the average fraud in London and the South East in 2010 worth over £7.5m, the fraudsters are becoming increasingly sophisticated, focusing on big institutions where a successful hit can see them walking away with large amounts of cash.

"Government agencies, like commercial businesses, have been increasingly vulnerable to the threat of fraud. In a year of Government austerity measures, tax increases, rising unemployment and significant structural change, it is hardly surprising that the long fingers of the fraudster have reached into the public purse.

"The greater concentration of population in the South East means a larger number of opportunists and organised fraudsters targeting social welfare budgets," he said.

"Fraud is not a victimless crime, particularly at a time when the deficit is so high. Anti-fraud measures need to be reviewed and amplified by the public sector to combat this assault."

He added that professional gangs, many from abroad, were the biggest concern.

Mr Patel described them as "the chameleons for the fraud world. Constantly changing their colours to creep one step ahead of technological development, exploiting business evolution for nefarious ends" and thriving particularly in the online environment.

Comment

IT'S hard to know whether to applaud or boo Dover Harbour Board's blatant bid to steal some limelight from the arrival of P&O Ferries' new superferry (see opposite).

It wasn't in the same league as the audacity shown by former Labour spin doctor Jo Moore, memorably sacked after proclaiming that 9/11 – the day of the terror attacks on the United States in 2001 – was "a good day to bury bad news".

But it was cheeky of DHB to send out a bulletin to coincide with the berthing of the impressive Spirit of Britain. It should have been a day of rare celebration for Dover's ferry operators, battered by recession and a rejuvenated Channel Tunnel.

French operator LD Lines axed its Dover services last year, SeaFrance is for sale, Norfolk Line merged operations with DFDS last year, and P&O needs Spirit of Britain and its forthcoming sister ship to deliver market-beating economies of scale. The last thing P&O wanted was DHB using the new £150m ship's arrival as an excuse to bang on about a relatively paltry £8m it has spent to facilitate the vessel's use of the Kent port.

Especially when DHB holds some £60m of the big three ferry operators' money in above-inflation tariffs, levied towards funding Dover's forthcoming Terminal 2, and with DHB boss Bob Goldfield insisting he will chase the operators for even more investment cash if necessary – berthing fees are tipped to have risen by 33 per cent by 2012, compared with 2009.

Mr Goldfield also told the ferries recently that they only had their own fare discounting to blame for wavering revenues. But you do wonder whether it will be DHB doing the discounting soon.

If P&O's new investment doesn't deliver and its fellow operators also falter, I don't see too many other ferry operators waiting to leap into berthing with Dover in the current climate, unless the prices moderate.

And maybe it's time DHB battened down the hatches on the PR front, too?

BUSINESS EDITOR STEVE LOADER

Pairing by NatWest boosts SME support

NATWEST has appointed two familiar faces to strengthen its support for the small to medium-size business sector in two areas of Kent.

Steve Clare has become director of commercial banking for Maidstone and Medway, while Dara Chauhan becomes his counterpart for Canterbury, Ashford and Tunbridge Wells.

Mr Clare has lived in Medway all his life and joined NatWest in 1983 at the Gillingham branch. He later joined the Business Centre in West Malling and progressed to business director roles across Kent. He will head the commercial banking team at NatWest's County Gate offices in Maidstone.



Steve Clare

He said: "I'm looking forward to meeting up with familiar faces in the business community and confident we will build on our reputation for supporting the SME sector."

Dara Chauhan was born and raised in Gravesend and joined NatWest in 2002 at the East London Business Centre.



Dara Chaudhan

He has held senior roles in the bank's business arm. He will lead the commercial banking team from NatWest offices in Canterbury, Ashford and Tunbridge Wells.

Mr Chauhan was also confident he could build the bank's reputation: "I'm looking forward to meeting new and existing customers in the business community."

Hall right in the end



DUNCAN MURRAY

AWARD-winning design and construction firm Directline Structures launched a rescue plan after a college sports hall scheme threatened to collapse, ***writes Steve Loader***.

The Ashford-based company has a history of designing and building for the education sector, but was called in late this time after the original project's budget spiralled out of control.

MD Duncan Murray said: "We usually provide the whole package to clients, including design and planning, but in this case we were happy to take over at a critical stage of the development plans.

"We've had years of experience with this kind of project and after reassessing the whole structure, we realised we could make the building far more efficient by redesigning it.

"We worked closely with the college to make sure they got all the facilities they required while adhering to their very tight budget – and saved more than £200,000 of unnecessary costs in the process."

The hall was for Seaford Head Community College in East Sussex, where business manager David Greaves said: "The main challenge was trying to find a contractor who could construct the building we required within the budget.

"We were finding that between making initial inquiries and receiving the final quotation, costs literally doubled.

"Then a neighbouring school recommended Directline Structures and once they started the progress was astonishing.

"The company understands the funding difficulties schools face and has worked hard to try to contain costs. At one point we faced a potential budget overrun of £30,000 just to supply power to the building, but Directline's team worked round the problems we were facing and made sure budgets were met. Their can-do approach has been very refreshing."

Mr Murray said: "We fully appreciate the budget constraints many schools face, so work to make optimum use of space and keep costs down without compromising on quality and efficiency."



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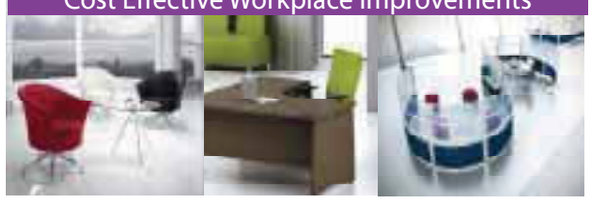
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PROUD: Graham Jones (left) and colleague Stephen Beck with certificate

Strive to Lexcel

LAW firm Whitehead Monckton of Maidstone and Tenterden has been awarded the Law Society's Lexcel accreditation.

Lexcel is the profession's practice management standard and is only awarded to solicitors who meet the highest management and customer care standards.

Whitehead Monckton is the first law firm based in Maidstone to achieve Lexcel accreditation. Managing partner Graham Jones said: "I'm extremely proud that Whitehead Monckton has achieved this accreditation.

"We pride ourselves on providing clients with the best service we can and being awarded Lexcel reinforces our belief that our processes and procedures help us to do exactly that."

BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

MANSTON airport has awarded a multi-million-pound contract for the replacement of its radar. The project will renew both the radar and air traffic display system at the Thanet airport and be carried out by Thales, a world leader in aerospace.

The new radar is needed due to the Thanet Offshore and London Array wind farms in the Thames Estuary, which will have more than 400 giant turbines between them.

The wind farm developers have contributed towards the cost of the project to allow the airport to continue to operate efficiently.

Manston chief executive Charles Buchanan said: "Rotating wind turbine blades can cause radar 'clutter', which can look similar to the radar picture from a moving aircraft.

"Manston's new state-of-the-art radar system, together with a mandatory transponder zone over the wind farms, will allow aircraft to continue to fly safely and efficiently over the wind farms under an air traffic control service."

LAW firm Vizards Wyeth of Dartford is in merger talks with a Liverpool practice, Weightmans.

Patrick Gaul, managing partner of Weightmans, said: "We have spent some time already looking at the strategy and the vision and we are at a stage now where we are investigating whether a mutually acceptable deal can be put together. We would anticipate being able to make a further announcement shortly."

BUSINESSES in Kent can help staff save money and the environment by recommending the Kent Journeyshare website. The timely advice also comes after a rise in fuel duty and VAT. By registering at www.kentjourneyshare.com and searching for the right travel matches, users can either take turns with their driving to and from work, or give someone a lift, in exchange for a contribution to fuel costs.

Kent County Council cabinet member for highways, Cllr Nick Chard, said: "The typical commuter who car shares every day saves about £800 a year, while those who manage to fill all their spare seats often save in excess of £2,000.

"But there are still many drivers who are unaware of how easy it is to find people to share with."

Superferry takes a bow

By **STEVE LOADER** and **MATHEW BEECH**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

P&O Ferries has welcomed a new £150 million flagship to Dover after a three-day delivery voyage from Finland, where she was built.

After braving the largely frozen waters of the Baltic, the 49,000-tonne Spirit of Britain is now making final preparations or 'shakedown' for service on the Dover-Calais route from January 21.

She is the first of two giant ships coming into service for P&O Ferries this year on the route, with her sister Spirit of France due for delivery in September – they replace the Spirit of Dover and Spirit of Calais respectively.

The newcomers can carry twice the capacity of their predecessors – each will accommodate 200 cars and 180 lorries – yet use the same amount of fuel. Care of the environment is also recognised through onboard recycling centres, fitted in anticipation of future legislation.



NEW ARRIVAL: P&O's Spirit of Britain

The two ships' combined cost of 360 million euros represents the largest investment ever by P&O Ferries. Chief executive Helen Deeble said: "We are delighted to welcome this fantastic new ship to Dover. She offers a leap forward in terms of her size and the quality of the build and I'm confident she'll provide a fantastic experience for all the customers who will travel on her in the years to come."

The Port of Dover said it commissioned £8m of investment in its infrastructure over the last two years to support P&O Ferries and its long-term plans.

Port chief executive Bob Goldfield said: "We are pleased to welcome Spirit of Britain to her new home at the Port of Dover.

"The port has responded positively to its customers' needs by adapting its infrastructure over a number of years in order to accommodate the new arrival and it has done so while still maintaining the level of service expected of a world-class port and the gateway to £80 billion of trade each year."

However, his comments mask a simmering row over port tariffs, which have united the three main ferry lines, including P&O, in a war of words with Mr Goldfield's management (see Comment opposite).

Mind your language

FIRMS in east Kent are going continental with courses in business Dutch and French.

Part of Canterbury council's involvement in the EU-funded Transmanche Enterprise Network, the free courses start in early February.

The city council's Natalia Sukhram said: "These courses are aimed at people who want to develop their businesses in Holland, Belgium and France.

Confident

"Everyone is at the same level, beginners or intermediate, so it removes the stress of learning."

Malcolm Austin, MD of promotional gifts company Austin Associates in Broomfield, near Canterbury, is half way through an earlier course. He said: "I'm enjoying this opportunity. I'll feel more confident in being able to use Dutch. The support from the TEN Project doesn't just come from the lessons. I've been taken to exhibitions and am also looking to add a French translation to our website. We've been told there's a market for our products in the Netherlands and I need to explore that."

Annie McNamara, director of Whitstable-based Interactrice, is following the advanced French course and thinks teacher, Virginie Pernot has the balance just right.

She said: "We're covering useful business material, but also getting lots of practice in conversational skills, so we'll feel confident when meeting French business people for the first time.

"And it's working. I've just exhibited at an IT fair in France and made good contacts. The classes will help me develop these relationships. I'm also taking the Dutch course and really enjoying it."

Find out more by clicking on www.business.canterbury.gov.uk.



SPELL IT OUT: Dutch teacher Hanneke van der Schoor with students

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Teamwork tips from Red 8

TEAMWORK is crucial in any organisation – for the Red Arrows it's a matter of life and death.

How the RAF's world famous aerobatics team achieves and maintains the standard will be a feature at Hospice in the Weald's first ever black-tie corporate dinner, when the guest speaker will be Flt Lieut Dave Davies – the Red Arrows' Red 8.

It will be at the Spa Hotel, Tunbridge Wells, on Friday, February 18. Hospice in the Weald's Rachel Holweger said: "Dave's slot promises to be packed with adrenalin, in contrast with some of the more light-hearted elements of the programme. There'll be something for everyone."

The Red 8 Event is in association with Uckfield-based consultancy Marketing Eye, and supported by Heartwood Wealth Management in Tunbridge Wells, and services company Brolley of Tonbridge. Other celebrity guests are promised, including former cricket commentator Henry 'Blowers' Blofeld.

There will also be an auction including a holiday at the seven-star Emirates Palace Hotel, Abu Dhabi, and signed memorabilia from the worlds of sport, music and film. For more information, click on www.red8event.co.uk.

Battening down for economic 'perfect storm'

By **STEVE LOADER**
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

BUSINESSES are being invited to meetings around Kent to help shape and grow their industries and the county's economy, before a predicted 'perfect storm' inflicted by UK food and energy shortages.

The events, being set up by the Kent Economic Board – a partnership between Kent County Council and other bodies – will target specific sectors with potential to boost local output and growth.

The first will be for food production, horticulture and agriculture and held at East Malling Research conference centre, from 3-6pm, on Wednesday, and is backed by KCC, the National Farmers' Union, the Country Land and Business Association and Hadlow College.

KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter will open the meeting, looking at company investment and development, what makes a business successful and what entrepreneurial challenges it faces.

Professor Allan Buckwell, director of policy at the CLA, will analyse pressures on profitability, commercial opportunities, and why we should care about Common Agricultural Policy reform. Nick Holmes, a specialist in the rural sector for the accountancy Chavereys, will speak about agriculture and horticulture in Kent. And Oliver Doubleday, MD of Sittingbourne farms group GH Dean & Co, will discuss future priorities for Kent's food sector.

Jon Regan, of Mereworth's Hugh Lowe Farms, will chair the event as Kent Economic Board business champion. He said: "We want to hear from businesses themselves about what will drive investment, tackle skills in the industry and shape business development to secure a prosperous future.

"With food security and sustainability now a real issue and the local priorities of our major international sources of food supply becoming more important than foreign trade, we are indeed approaching [Government chief scientific advisor] Prof John Beddington's 'perfect storm' [on food and energy shortages].

"The need to invest in food production and associated technologies is like never before a vital national interest. With the newly emerging LEPs, the timing of this could not be better."

Feedback from those attending will help business development and planning in Kent.

Future events and sectors in the programme include: Construction and Civil Development; Low Carbon and Energy Production; and Digital and Creative Media, Interactive and Online. For details of venues, dates and times, visit www.keb.org.uk/news-and-events/article/kent-economic-board-sector-meetings/



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Gullands man closes casebook



PARTNER and head of Gullands' residential property team Stephen Tomlinson (pictured left) has opted for a semi-retirement role after a legal career of 47 years. He will be replaced at the Maidstone law firm by Alan Williams, who joins from a practice in Cheshire.

Mr Tomlinson said: "Despite certainly not feeling my age, I've decided I ought to consider retiring and will be working closely with Alan and the rest of the team to ensure a smooth handover for clients in the coming months. I look forward to dedicating more time to my charitable work as a board member for the Abbeyfield Kent Society, which runs care homes in the county, and spending more time with my family."

L&G walks the Walk



FREMLIN Walk shopping centre in Maidstone has been bought by Legal & General's property arm in a massive £92 million deal.

The site has consistently bucked the declining retail trend since the recession hit the UK in 2007. The centre – on the site of the former Fremlins brewery – comprises 350,000 square feet of retail space, including a 100,000 square feet House of Fraser department store.

There are a further 48 retail units, mostly national brands such as Zara, Laura Ashley, Office and Pret A Manger, plus a 760-space car park, all of which are believed to have helped Fremlin Walk defy the economic downturn.

Former co-owners Europa Capital and SCOOP AM were delighted with the deal. Partner Rob Sim, said: "We have been very pleased with the success of investment in Fremlin Walk with our partners, SCOOP AM, as it has provided the fund with a strong income cash flow over the past 18-months.

"The offer from Legal & General Property persuaded us to make an early sale although there are still value enhancement opportunities in the property as we see further improvements in retailer demand."

Fremlins' former Pale Ale Brewery was closed in 1967 after the firm was taken over by rival Whitbread, but the site continued as a bottling and distribution centre and even included some upgrading in the 1980s before re-development and the opening of the shopping centre in 2005.

The former brewery entrance and clock, together with Fremlins' famous elephant logo survives as a pedestrian entrance to the shopping arcade.

BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

Rentals perfectly poised in 2011 property sector

LETTINGS specialist Belvoir has predicted dynamic growth for residential property rentals this year and near perfect market conditions for long-term investment landlords, ***writes Steve Loader***.

Rents are rising as prospective home owners continue to face lending/mortgage barriers, job relocation, and an uncertain financial future.

"Across our region, demand from tenants continues to grow and exceeds supply as many consumers are deciding to rent rather than buy," according to Karen and Peter Huane, who run the Belvoir office in Rochester.

"Consumers are feeling the pinch, still worried about the impact of cutbacks and a possible ongoing recession, and deciding it's wise to wait before committing themselves to a long-term house purchase.

"We are seeing a rise in residential lettings, which I believe will continue throughout 2011 and, with rental values expected to continue a pattern of steady growth as the year goes on, it's never been a better time to be either a landlord, or indeed a tenant, with all the security which comes with renting."

Latest research by the Association of Residential Lettings Agents shows nationwide demand for rental properties has rocketed to an eight-year high. More than 70 per cent of letting agents across the UK report surging demand, reaching double that experienced in 2007 at the peak of the property boom.

Belvoir is a nationwide group handling a property portfolio worth up to £3bn and MD Dorian Gonsalves feels the impact of the Government's comprehensive spending review will have a significant impact on the market.

He said: "With hundreds of thousands of public sector job cuts planned for 2011 and families on lower incomes facing dramatic benefit reductions, there will be less ability or willingness to commit to a mortgage.

"I believe these exceptional market conditions, which include falling property prices, continued low interest rates and unprecedented tenant demand, will provide a major boost to the residential property market and a fantastic opportunity for long-term investment landlords."

Reviewing 2010, his firm highlighted:

• Exponential growth in rental requirements, with an over-supply of prospective tenants and an under-supply of landlords.

• Due to the slow down in residential property sales, many estate agents entered the lettings market with no prior expert knowledge of the sector, leading to increased competition for quality properties and difficulties in some areas.

And looking ahead to 2011:

• Lettings will grow – Belvoir predicts rents will increase by 5-10 per cent this year.

• Renting will be the preferred alternative to home ownership, allowing greater mobility. As we come out of recession, people will feel more comfortable about changing jobs and become increasingly mobile in their search for the right work.

• Residential sales will struggle for the foreseeable future as banks maintain a tough line on lending and mortgages.

• Long-term investors in buy-to-let property will attract much needed private capital in the local residential property market. With the scaling down of Government schemes such as Homebuy, new initiatives will be needed to increase the flow of properties onto the market and keep the recovery on track.



OPPORTUNITY: Belvoir's Dorian Gonsalves

National profile for city's Goods Shed with Times praise



CANTERBURY'S 'foodie' flagship, the Goods Shed, has secured valuable national profile in the Sunday Times.

The cathedral city was chosen as one of the heavyweight paper's top five destinations for food lovers in its travel section cover story for the New Year, and the former railway depot turned local produce emporium was the only store featured.

"An amble round a farmers' market, picking up a chutney here, an organic parsnip there, is good for both the soul and the larder," was one of the salivating lines from the report.

The Goods Shed has already been held up as a successful example of how small traders can work together to create a market for all their products, and was also picked by tourism champion Visit Kent for its big budget poster campaign last year to promote the county in London (poster pictured left). Goods Shed landlord Susanna Atkins owns the butchers, and The Larder, and rents out remaining space to small independents who could never afford the rental cost of their own shops, but do 'buy into' the ethos that every trader helps each other.

She said: "The Goods Shed operates with a good deal of trust and cooperation between the different businesses it is home to, allowing us to tackle the overheads as a group, reducing each individual's running costs.

"That in turn allows us to be more creative and experimental. Prices here are far more reasonable than people expect. Which is one of the things we hope will keep them coming in the year ahead.

"We are the fine food hall at the other end of the high-speed line from St Pancras and that is definitely bringing people here."

All-new food and drink bible

COUNTY food and drink champion Produced in Kent has launched an all-new edition of its consumer 'bible' Kent's Finest.

This celebration of the best food and drink Kent has to offer has been published with help from LEADER, a funding programme run by Defra and the EU, and is available free at independent shops and direct from Produced in Kent.



Membership of the organisation rose 17 per cent last year and its annual flagship, the Taste of Kent Awards, drew an 89 per cent increase in public voting and a real uplift in awareness and business for many of the winners. Karen Williams, owner of the award-winning Mulberry Tree restaurant at Boughton Monchelsea, near Maidstone, said "People love Kent produce, they love nothing more than dining in an award-winning restaurant, enjoying food made with the finest Kentish ingredients and produce, accompanied by the county's outstanding wines, beers and juices."

As consumer spending continued to be flat, Produced in Kent went on the offensive by also publishing The Producers' Handbook in 2010, a cutting-edge guide to help food and drink producers not only set up, but also succeed, in a new business. It was just one of a number of successes during the year according to Produced in Kent manager Julie Monkman, who added: "The year has been a dynamic one and the team worked incredibly hard at engaging and creating products that will be of genuine value to the many members and stakeholders that we serve. We are aware we need to communicate with our members and assist them on many levels and we endeavour to offer just that, using a medium and pace they feel comfortable with and can engage with."



Picture: ADY KERRY



PROGESS: Canterbury's Natalie Seymour

Indoor trophies are up for grabs

THE LEAGUE stage of the top indoor hockey divisions reach their climax this weekend with several of the county's sides in the race for glory.

In the men's and women's Premier Divisions both Canterbury teams are in contention to qualify for the super sixes National Indoor Championship finals at Wembley Arena later this month.

The ladies won all four of their games in December so are well placed to make the semi-finals on Sunday night. They will not be taking progression for granted though, with the four hardest games still to come in Worcester, plus top-scorer Susie Rowe is unavailable.

Meanwhile, Kwan Browne's men's team had a mixed opening to their campaign, but are still in the mix to claim a top-four spot in Bristol. A win and two draws from their first four games means only goal difference is keeping them out of the qualification places.

Their second round of games includes a clash with East Grinstead, who had a 100 per cent record last month.

Browne said: "We're really confident we have a good enough side to be in the top four and we'd love to be at Wembley live on television for the finals."

They could be joined in the top flight next year by Sevenoaks, who have adapted quickly to life in Division One.

Expected to struggle against tougher opposition, Sevenoaks travelled to Birmingham as an unknown force last weekend, but they now stand on the threshold of the Premier Division after out-scoring their more experienced rivals.

Elsewhere the Oaks women will be looking to preserve their own Division One indoor status after two wins and two defeats at the opening round at Lilleshall.



SUCCESS: Kent celebrate their promotion

Wilkins picks up top rugby award

A SUPERB 12 months for Kent rugby coach Chris Wilkins was recognised this week as the Rugby Football Union named him performance development coach of the year.

Wilkins received his award from former England head coach Brian Ashton during the ceremony at Loughborough University having guided Kent to promotion in rugby's county championship.

Kent beat Hampshire, Somerset and Middlesex in the pool stages before seeing off Warwickshire in the final to take their place in Division One for 2011.

As senior coach with Kent's school of rugby, Wilkins was also recognised for his player development work with the county's most talented youngsters.

Wilkins also serves as director of rugby at Whitgift School and he led their under-18 side to victory in the final of the Daily Mail RBS under-18 Cup at Twickenham last March.

Cath: Why I quit captaincy

Former England skipper says after three years the time was right to relinquish the armband

CATH Spencer has revealed her country's prospects at the next rugby World Cup were behind her decision to step down as England captain this week.

By **STEVE TERVET**

Having led her country for three years, the 31-year-old stepped down ahead of the new international season, although she remains part of the England elite squad for the forthcoming Six Nations championship.

Spencer, who started her career as a junior with Folkestone, hinted she may call time on her international career before the 2014 World Cup and believes the new skipper will benefit by taking charge sooner rather than later.

Enjoyed

"I want to keep playing, but I don't know if I'll be here in three year's time," she said. "It's time for someone else to take over, there were lots of aspects I enjoyed, but I still feel I can get better as a player.

"The World Cup's three years away, which is quite a long time, but I just want to keep playing in this successful England team for now."

Under Spencer's captaincy, England won three Six Nations crowns, two Nations Cups and reached the final of last year's World Cup on home soil before eventually losing 13-10 to New Zealand.

The number eight, born in Ashford, also scored a try on her 50th international appearance as England chalked up a memorable victory against the Kiwis at Twickenham in November 2009.

England have yet to announce a new captain, but Spencer insists she will back whoever takes over the reins in time for the Six Nations opener against Wales on February 5.

"I was skipper for three years and really grew as a captain throughout that time," she said. "I definitely think the next captain needs time to bed in.

"It was a really tough decision, probably one of the toughest I've ever made. I chatted to various people, to my family and to coaches, but it was completely my decision.

"I really enjoyed being captain, it was a massive honour, but I felt it was time to focus more on myself as a player."



REFOCUSED: Cath Spencer says she will now spend more time working on her own game after stepping down as England captain Picture: ADY KERRY

Gilbert clinches cross-country crown

WINNING the Kent County Cross Country Championships last weekend came as a pleasant surprise to John Gilbert, who upset more established names to take the title.

The pre-race focus in the senior men's race was on whether Medway & Maidstone's Mike Coleman could regain the crown he narrowly lost to Dean Lacy (Cambridge Harriers) 12 months ago.

On the day both were upstaged by Gilbert, representing Kent AC, as the 30-year-old finished 16 seconds clear of Coleman at Wilmington Grammar School in Dartford.

He said: "I would've been over the moon to come third behind Mike and Dean, I knew they were the ones to watch. It was quite a surprise, but it just went my way on the day.

"After about four miles I opened up a bit of a gap on Mike, but towards the end I started to tire and I was running scared for the last mile. It feels really good to win, it's my biggest achievement in running."

The senior women's race was won by Clare Elms (Dulwich Runners), who came home 10 seconds clear of Blackheath & Bromley's Bryony Proctor, who fought off a challenge from Jennifer Pereira (Medway & Maidstone).

As expected Tonbridge dominated the boys races, nowhere more so than in the under-17s, where they had 10 of the first 12 finishers. Luca Russo, Tom Cox, George Duggan and Stuart Brown all won their respective races.



TOP THREE: Second-placed Mike Coleman (534), winner John Gilbert (506) and third-placed Dean Lacy (396) during and after last weekend's Kent Cross Country Championships



NEW BOY: Matt Haines is taking on Europe's finest Picture: ADY KERRY

Matt takes Tour life in his stride

Haines keeps his cool despite missing the cut in his first three tournaments

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

RESULTS may not yet be forthcoming but Matt Haines feels he has not been overawed by the step up to life on the European Tour.

The golfer enjoyed an excellent start to his professional career on the Challenge Tour last year, culminating with a victory in the final event of the season. The win in Italy, a month before his 21st birthday, booked his place on the European Tour for this season.

Confident

Translating the success onto the elite circuit has not been so straightforward. Heading into this weekend's Joburg Open, Haines had yet to make a cut in his first three tournaments, but the Chatham-born golfer is confident of turning it around.

He said: "I missed the cut in two and withdrew injured in the other so it's not quite what I had hoped for. Otherwise, everything feels the same. There are the obvious differences like bigger crowds, more TV coverage and a slightly more special feel to a European Tour event, but it's still 72 holes and me against 150 other guys.

"I know I have a lot of strengths, but there is always room for improvement so you can never be complacent. I'd like to be more consistent with the driver. I'm a good iron player and have a good short game so if I can be in the middle of the fairway off the tee more often, I will score a lot better."

The slow start has not dimmed any of Haines' ambition and he has high hopes of forcing his way into the lucrative climax to the season in the Middle East.

He said: "Most of my goals are private, but apart from keeping my card, I really want to make the Race to Dubai final at the end of the year for the top-60 on the rankings."

COUNTDOWN TO THE OPEN

179 DAYS 179 WAS TOM KIDD'S THE WINNING SCORE IN THE FIRST OPEN TO BE HELD AT ST ANDREWS, IN 1873 (ONLY PLAYED OVER 36 HOLES IN THOSE DAYS)

Picture: ADY KERRY





QUALIFIERS: (l-r) Kurt Barnes, Rick Kulacz and Matt Millar and (right) Royal St George's at Sandwich, which hosts this year's tournament

PLACES for The Open Championship at Royal St George's this summer began to fill up this week with the Australasian leg of International Final Qualifying (IFQ).

About 2,500 golfers from around the world begin the process to qualify for the tournament each year, with only a handful of spots up for grabs in IFQ.

Kingston Heath Golf Club in Melbourne, Australia, played host to the first regional 36-hole event, with 51 players battling for a top-three finish to gain entry to The Open in July.

Despite a bogey-bogey finish, Matt Millar's 10-under-par total saw the 34-year-old from Canberra finish top on Tuesday to book a maiden appearance at one of golf's major championships.

"I can't wait," he said. "I've played a bit of golf over in Britain when I was on tour, but never at Royal St George's, so I'm really looking forward to the experience."

Compatriot Kurt Barnes was one shot further back after carding rounds of 66 and 69. The 29-year-old made his debut at St Andrews last year and is keen to progress after missing the cut.

He said: "It's great. It was my aim to qualify and to put in some hard yards this year, so I can get over there and play well and make the most of the opportunity."

The final place needed to be decided in a play-off after Stephen Leaney and Rick Kulacz finished together on eight-under. Both parred the first extra hole, but Kulacz came through on the second, after Leaney missed his putt for par.

The 25-year-old is already dreaming of following in the footsteps of fellow Australian Greg Norman, who won the 1993 Open in Sandwich.

"My first major; it's going to be great. An Australian has won there before, so I'm really looking forward to what it's all about," he said.

The next IFQ event starts on Wednesday at the Royal Johannesburg and Kensington Golf Club. The Open begins on July 14.

Kent sport stars have their say on twitter

The pick of this week's tweets from the county's sports stars

IT DOESN'T take too much to get Kent skipper Rob Key venting his spleen online. This week's hot topic was the player auction for the Indian Premier League, where he was none too impressed to see three of his club-mates overlooked.



@RobKey612: "Some absolute dross being signed up in the ipl.

"How on earth does George Bailey get bought and d Stevens doesn't. clueless."

Before adding, with a trace of sarcasm: "Apparently kylie minogue, Paul hogan, Jim Robinson, Alf stewart (pictured) and ernie dingo have all been signed up do this years ipl."

Everyone knows injuries are like kryptonite to sportsmen and women and it seems Gillingham defender Tony Sinclair is reaching the end of his tether after six weeks out.



@SINCS29: "Why the hell does everyone feel the need to look at my boot cast!!! Imma write a note saying fractured toe and stick it on my head!"

England's women are Down Under looking to rub more cricketing salt into Australian wounds.

Kent batsman Susie Rowe won her first One-Day International cap this week, but was more pre-occupied with the lack of security at Perth's airport.

@susierowe6: "That was stressful... it was like DIY check in, take the bags to the plane, put the stickers on your bags... not so sure about qantas..."



After appearing on Famous and Fearless last week, Dame Kelly Holmes has been plugging her new book. Not sure about her New Year's resolution though, I think you're supposed to have one for 2011 first.

@damekellyholmes: "Ok off to start training this belly to get my six pack back!!! My mission for 2012 is to get fit, look fit and get ready for other challenges."

Follow us at www.twitter.com/kentsport for the latest sports news from around the county

Team set for a bumpy ride in treacherous powerboat race



ON COURSE: Team 26 are set to take part in the Cowes-Monte Carlo Grand Prix

A TEAM from Kent have signed up for an event billed as the world's toughest and longest powerboat race.

Team 26 announced this week they would be entering the Cowes-Monte Carlo Grand Prix, scheduled to be held in 2013.

It is only the second time the race has been staged, following on from the inaugural running in 1972.

At 2,400 miles, the course is split into 14 stages up to 300 nautical miles long, which will see teams at sea for up to seven hours a day.

Team 26, who are based in Edenbridge, have joined an international field from across Europe who have already signed up.

It is a new test for the team, who broke a world speed record for their class in November by averaging more than 100 miles per hour at Coniston Water in Cumbria.

Daniel Cramphorn, from Canterbury, and Kim Collins will pilot the 43-foot powerboat along with veteran offshore racer Craig Barrie, who works for US boat manufacturers Donzi.

Cramphorn said: "To be given the privilege of competing in a Donzi in what I'm sure will be the world's greatest powerboat race is as good as it gets.

"The race will obviously be the biggest challenge we've faced, but with the help of Craig's experience and our great support crew, there really is only one position we plan on being in when we cross the line in Monte Carlo."

Relf rises in Kent reshuffle

Academy director lands dual role as coach and club analyst

EXCLUSIVE

By **GLENN PEARSON**

KENT have shuffled their coaching pack and promoted academy director Phil Relf to assistant coach of the first-team.

Relf will also be the club's full-time analyst, taking over from Craig Buckham, and has been tasked with generating income for the cricket department during the winter months.

Simon Willis will revert back to academy director, a post he held in 2003, and will also manage the club's 2nd XI, while head coach Paul Farbrace is set to oversee Kent's coaching set-up and be responsible for the first-team in a director of cricket role.

The move has come in the wake of redundancies at St Lawrence as the club continue to look to make cut-backs and balance their finances.





Pictures: ADY KERRY

MOVING UP: Phil Relf will be assistant coach and Simon Willis is the new academy boss

Jamie Clifford, Kent chief executive, said: "It's connected to the redundancy process, their roles were at risk in that process, and we looked at what they do and how they do it. Simon will run the academy and the 2nd XI, while Phil is going to do two things which is be first-team assistant coach and cricket projects manager, which will look at revenue generating.

"I think it is a good opportunity for Phil to work within the professional sphere and add value to the coaching department in a way that perhaps we haven't to this point."

Relf took over from Farbrace as academy director when the latter became assistant coach of Sri Lanka in 2007, and has since seen the likes of Matt Coles, Alex Blake and Sam Northeast forge first-class careers with the county. Stepping up to work with the first-team and assisting Farbrace is something Relf, a former sports teacher at Borden Grammar School in Sittingbourne, is looking forward to.

"As a coach, just as the players have got to be ambitious, it's important you don't get comfortable for too long and the good thing about the academy role last year was that it evolved and I was able to spend some time with the first-team, so it feels as though it is a natural progression to some extent," he said.

"I'm really pleased and it's something I'm really looking forward to. The academy role has been something I have really enjoyed and that has developed my coaching massively.

Influence

"I've had great support from the club and been able to work with the likes of Simon Willis, Graham Ford, Farby obviously and also some of the senior players like Simon Cook, James Tredwell and Rob Key, who have all had an influence. Those sorts of players have really helped develop my coaching."

After Kent's relegation to Division Two of the County Championship, Relf believes combining his role as a full-time analyst will be beneficial, particularly to the youthful element of the squad.

He said: "Having someone on board full-time that is able to access footage will be important, especially as we will be coming up against sides that we haven't faced for 12 months and playing on grounds that we haven't done for a couple of years.

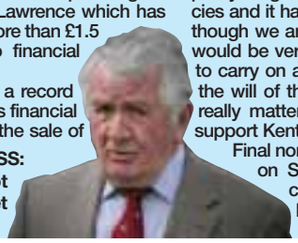
"Our job as coaches is to provide the players with as much information as possible and then it's down to them if they take that on board or not. There are some that lap it up and some that it's not their cup of tea, but our challenge is to make it meet their demands."

Kennedy aims to retain chairman's seat

CHAIRMAN George Kennedy insists he has unfinished business and intends to stand for re-election at Kent's Annual General Meeting.

The club chairman, who has been in office for three years, has come under fire from a section of the Kent membership during an uncertain period at St Lawrence which has seen the county lose more than £1.5 million in the last two financial years.

Kent are due to post a record profit in February for this financial year, which is down to the sale of two plots of land, and although tempered by the news there will still be a significant operational loss, Kennedy is certain he is the man to lead the county forward.



UNFINISHED BUSINESS: George Kennedy is not ready to step down yet
Picture: ADY KERRY

"I came in at a time when the recession was just hitting and we had to make some pretty tough decisions and make redundancies and it has been hard, but I really feel as though we are on the right track now and I would be very disappointed if I wasn't able to carry on at this stage," he said. "But it's the will of the members and that's all that really matters. Whatever happens, I'll still support Kent."

Final nominations for election were due on Saturday, which looks to have come too soon for Kent member Graham Holland who was hoping to stand for election to the committee and unseat one of either Kennedy, Graham Johnson or Joe Rice.

Holland didn't meet the rules of the club which state that an election candidate has to be a member for more than three years.

Jamie Clifford, Kent's chief executive, said: "He won't be able to stand. This is not personal against Graham Holland; we have had two other people in the last four or five years who have not been able to stand because of the rules of the club. I have respect for Graham and I'm pleased that someone wants to put themselves for nomination, which he will be able to do next year because he would have completed the three consecutive years."

This year's AGM is on March 21.

Jackson still in driving seat for ambitious Motorbase

MOTORBASE Performance have retained the services of multiple race winner Mat Jackson for the 2011 British Touring Car Championship (BTCC), ***writes Tom Howard.***

The team had to fight off competition from the works Chevrolet squad for Jackson's signature, but the 29-year-old has opted to pen a new deal with the Wrotham-based independent outfit. He will join Porsche Carrera Cup graduate Liam Griffin as part of Motorbase's three-pronged Ford Focus-led attack on the championship.

Jackson, who drove for Motorbase last year, is one of the BTCC's most promising drivers with 12 race wins, including a triumph during the rain at the early season meeting at Brands Hatch last year.

Motorbase owner David Bartrum is delighted to have two of his three touring car seats filled with 10 weeks remaining before the season begins at Brands Hatch in April.

The situation is a stark contrast compared to this time last year, when the team were contemplating a campaign on the sidelines due to a lack of sponsorship.

Bartrum said: "I am pleased Mat has decided to race for us again. We always intended to keep him for this season, but there was a chance for him to go to Chevrolet.

"Mat is a key player in the touring car paddock and has all the potential to be a really great driver. We have got a new car for this year so to have some continuity in the team with Mat is going to help us.



PROMISING: Mat Jackson won 12 races for Motorbase last year Picture: NICK DUNGAN

"It's great to have two of the seats filled at this stage of the season and we can even start thinking about a testing programme, which we were unable to do last year. We have beefed up our team on the engineer front too so we are in a great position."

The team are yet to announce who will drive the third car, but it is understood they are in talks with Steven Kane and Ben Collins, formerly BBC Top Gear's 'The Stig'.

Gills confident striker Cody will stay to end of season

GILLINGHAM do not believe they risk losing Cody McDonald in the January transfer window despite the striker's blistering form in front of goal.

The 24-year-old has been ruthless over the last few weeks and netted his first professional hat-trick in the 5-1 win at Stockport County last weekend. It took his tally to 11 goals in the last 16 games heading into Saturday's meeting with Northampton Town.

McDonald is owned by Norwich City and arrived on a season-long loan deal last summer, shortly after Simeon Jackson moved in the other direction.

With the transfer window open the ex-Dartford hitman will have attracted the eye of scouts, but Gills boss Andy Hessenthaler is confident the arrangement of the loan deal means McDonald will stay at Priestfield until May.

He said: "As far as I'm concerned we've got him for a season and I don't think that can happen. If someone did come in for him I'm not sure what the situation would be, but I think if it's part of the deal [with Gillingham] I don't think it can happen.

"It's taken him a bit of time to settle but he did start off with a few injuries. I've been really pleased with him and I think he'll go on and score 20-plus goals the way he's playing at the moment."

Gillingham are looking to add another striker to their squad and triallist Liam Envur-Marum scored in the reserves' 2-1 win against the Glenn Hoddle Academy on Wednesday.



Picture: ADY KERRY

RED HOT: Cody McDonald has scored 11 goals in 16 games for Gillingham

Hessenthaler has yet to make up his mind, but the former Crawley striker may not have enough experience to warrant an approach.

He said: "Whether he's for us I'm not sure. We'll maybe have another look at him next week. Ideally I think we need someone with a bit of pedigree."

TALKS A GOOD GAME

Gills stalwart Nicky Southall on his rollercoaster career at Priestfield and the transition to coaching



Interview with
DAVID PRITCHARD

How Southall bridged the north-south divide

THE softly-spoken accent may still betray his upbringing in the North East, but Nicky Southall went native as an adopted southerner long ago.

The cultured midfielder had a playing career which took in more than 700 games and lasted almost two decades. It included a season in the Premier League with Bolton and a lengthy stay at Nottingham Forest, but Gillingham provided him with his most memorable moments.

Now in his fourth spell at Priestfield, this time as a player/coach, Southall is happy to be back at a club which has held a special hold on him ever since he first joined in 1997.

The initial move was provoked by problems at Grimsby Town, although Southall, who turns 39 next week, admits his knowledge of Gillingham was fairly limited when he left for Kent.

"I had played nearly 200 games in four years at Hartlepool so I had been a first-team regular from a very young age," he said. "I went to Grimsby and played a lot under Brian Laws, but when Alan Buckley came in he wanted his own players and I found myself frozen out.

"I didn't enjoy the experience and Gillingham came in for me and it gave me a new lease of life. I never looked back really and it was Gillingham which got me out of that situation.

New world

"Being a northern lad you hear about the north/south divide. I didn't really know where Gillingham was when I first heard they were interested, just that it was down south.

"You think it's in London and then you go past it and you think 'oh God, why am I going here?' Being from the North East it opened my eyes to a whole new world, obviously there were bigger and better things away from Middlesbrough where I was born and brought up. For me I just fell in love with the place and the fans made me feel really welcome.

"The first spell [1997-2001] I really enjoyed, it was a great bunch of lads and it was a great time for the lads with the play-off finals and getting into the Championship. When you have those moments at clubs it really makes you want more. It was a place where things happened for me and I enjoyed it."



Picture: ADY KERRY

STALWART: Nicky Southall in his current role as a coach and (inset) taking on Chelsea legend Gianfranco Zola for the Gills in the FA Cup in 2001

FACT FILE

NAME: Nicky Southall
SPORT: Football
AGE: 38
PLAYING CAREER: 733 appearances (641 starts), 82 goals
GILLINGHAM CAREER: 375 apps (352 starts), 30 goals
OTHER CLUBS: Hartlepool, Grimsby, Bolton, Norwich, Nottingham Forest, Dover Athletic

Southall played a key role in the brightest moments of the club's history, playing at Wembley twice in 12 months and helping establish the Gills in the Championship. There were also lows and he joined Forest shortly after they relegated Gillingham on a traumatic final day of the 2004/05 season.

While dropping out of the Championship signalled the end of his second stint at Priestfield, the conclusion to his third spell in 2009 left an equally bad taste for him individually.

After falling out of favour with Mark Stimson earlier in the season, he was reunited with former Gills team-mate and manager Andy Hessenthaler in a loan spell at Dover Athletic. Such a move usually heralded a swift end to Gillingham careers during Stimson's stay, but Southall impressively worked his way back into the side after a month in the Ryman Premier League.

He went on to feature in 35 of Gillingham's 46 league games to help them into the play-offs. It was widely known his contract would not be renewed, but he was denied a glorious farewell after surprisingly being left out of the Wembley squad.

It was a devastating blow at the time, but now Southall has had a taste of life as a coach, he views it differently.

"It was hard not being involved in the final," he said. "I played a lot of games that season and think I had made a big contribution in getting them there. When I look back and reflect maybe there were a few things in the papers I said [which I shouldn't have] but at the time I felt like that towards the last manager.

Worrying

"Looking in from the outside you can see [Stimson] had his decisions to make, just like we have decisions to make now as a coaching staff, so maybe I see the reasons why he didn't select me. When you're on the other side of the fence it is hard to take that on board and maybe a few things were said, but I felt very disappointed with the way things happened."

Coming back last summer with Hessenthaler has allowed Southall the chance to renew his bond with the club. Coaching has been a new challenge with a steep learning curve, but one which has paid off so far.

"It's been enjoyable and has certainly opened my eyes to how the other side goes," he said. "As a player you just turn up, do your training and leave, but as a coach there's a lot more organisation and worrying about all sorts of things – what the weather's going to be like for training, what numbers you're going to have, whether anyone's turning in ill or injured.

"It's definitely an 8.30am to 11pm kind of a job because you get phone calls all the time about players so your phone never stops ringing. It's good though, I'm really enjoying it."

Fleet loan signing aims to impress

MIDFIELDER Conor Okus has experienced a rollercoaster ride already this season but the teenager believes he can bring stability to the Ebbsfleet United engine-room, ***writes Steve Tervet.***

Signed on a month's loan from League One Dagenham & Redbridge, Okus, 19, has been thrown straight into the Fleet side after a frustrating period on the sidelines at Victoria Road and is desperate to impress during his stay in north Kent.

A product of the West Ham United Academy, Okus was released last summer but said the Premier League experience would stand him in good stead.

He said: "I was signed by West Ham when I was nine and I stayed until I was 18.

"At one point, I was training with the first-team. There's a lot of quality players at West Ham, the likes of Scott Parker and Mark Noble, and you do learn a lot of good things from those lads in terms of their professionalism."

Following his departure from Upton Park, Okus headed north of the border in pre-season and spent a four-week trial period with Aberdeen.

However, his hopes of SPL action were effectively dashed when Paul Hartley signed for the Dons, pushing Okus down the central midfield pecking order.

Returning to England, he secured a two-year contract with the Daggers but, unable to break into their first-team, he was loaned out to Thurrock before moving on to the Fleet.

Keen to impress Dagenham manager John Still, who watched him in action for Ebbsfleet against Hampton & Richmond on Tuesday, Okus now knows his performances over the next month could be critical to his career.

"I jumped at the opportunity to come here and I want to impress the gaffer," he said. "If I go back to Dagenham and he still doesn't think I'm ready to go into the team, I'll stay here to improve my football. The team's doing well so hopefully we can push on and get promotion."



Picture: DAVID PLUMB

EAGER: Midfielder Conor Okus hopes his month-long spell with Ebbsfleet United will reignite his career

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CLUB FACE DROP OVER GOUGING

By **STEVE TERVET**

Chairman considering appeal against RFU ruling as Maidstone are hit with 50-point deduction and fined £2,000 over incident which cost Gravesend player his right eye

MAIDSTONE Rugby Club are considering an appeal against the 50-point deduction and £2,000 fine handed down to them for the eye-gouge incident which blinded Gravesend's Clarence Harding in one eye.

At a Rugby Football Union disciplinary hearing on Wednesday, the club were found guilty of conduct prejudicial to the interests of the union and/or the game after Harding lost the sight in his right eye during a Kent Cup tie between the clubs a year ago.

Investigate

As it was the first case of its kind to be ruled on by the RFU, it is likely to become a test case in the sport.

The charge of failing to fully investigate an allegation of serious foul play was not prosecuted, however, although the points deduction will almost certainly see Maidstone relegated for a second season running.

"We're devastated about it," said Maidstone chairman Andy Golding. "We're still waiting for the written judgment so we won't be making any formal response until then, but we're considering our options.

"It's not impossible that we could avoid relegation, but it would be highly unlikely.

"The RFU were very complimentary about the way we conducted ourselves throughout and they were impressed with the professional aspect of the club, so there were some positives to come out of it."

Initial investigations by Maidstone and the police were unable to identify which player had injured Harding.

An RFU hearing in November found Maidstone player Matt Iles not guilty of the act, although they ruled Harding had been deliberately gouged by a Maidstone player.

Mike Rees QC, who chaired the three-man panel at Wednesday's hearing, concluded by saying: "Players who commit serious acts of misconduct on the field of play must realise that such acts can have serious repercussions for a club as a whole.

"In these changing times, clubs must accept a greater responsibility for the conduct of its members, including on the field of play.

"The panel acknowledge that Maidstone gave great assistance to both the police and the RFU during their investigations into this matter."

The deduction would leave the club on –22 points, 37 from safety, before Saturday's game against Old Elthamians.

Kent's hopes of signing an overseas player 'unlikely'

HOPES of signing an overseas player at Kent looks likely to depend on revenue generated from this year's Friends Provident t20 tournament, ***writes Glenn Pearson.***

With Kent set to announce a significant operating loss again this year, despite a bottom line profit of more than £1 million due to the sale of two pieces of land at St Lawrence, the budget for players remains tight.

Chief executive Jamie Clifford said bringing in an overseas star would be "unlikely" while chairman George Kennedy, currently in Australia, is fearful of signing a player for just a short period of the summer as the star would be likely to command a hefty wage.

He said: "I can't bring myself to spend a small fortune on bringing someone in for just a few matches, but if the right player became available at the right stage of the season and it would help the squad, then we'd have to have a look at it

"Having got the finances to pretty well where we want them, I'd hate to blow it all by saying 'let's go after one of the big stars', but we'll never say never."

Finances dictated that Kent couldn't sign one of their top targets, Wayne Parnell, when push came to shove last week – as exclusively revealed in this newspaper.

Instead, as Kent did in 2009 when they signed Parnell for the t20 competition, bringing in an overseas player will only happen if finances improve and the team are in need of a boost in a tournament that's likely to be high on the agenda this summer.

Clifford said: "I don't think it's quite black and white, but it's unlikely. It may be that we get the floodlights up and we have huge crowds and suddenly we are in a better place financially; then we'd look at it again. We are holding our fire and assessing it on an ongoing basis, but I think the key word is 'unlikely', but who knows?"



Picture: ADY KERRY

REVENUE: Kent, pictured playing in the Friends Provident t20 tournament last year, need the cash to roll in if they are to be able to sign an overseas player this summer

Meanwhile, Kennedy has backed head coach Paul Farbrace to revive the club's performances on the pitch after a difficult year in which Kent were relegated from Division One of the County Championship and failed to qualify in the t20 or Clydesdale Bank 40.

He said: "Next season I really think we'll see Farby's team.

"Last year he inherited a team that had several South Africans, but we've backed Farby all the way; I think he is a terrific coach and has been doing a good job. The club are very happy with him and he understands that finances at the club are still going to be tight.

"While we haven't said no to an overseas player yet, on the other hand we haven't got anybody lined up either, but there may be some opportunities as time goes by."